真・天地無用！魎皇鬼外伝

天地無用！GXP 9

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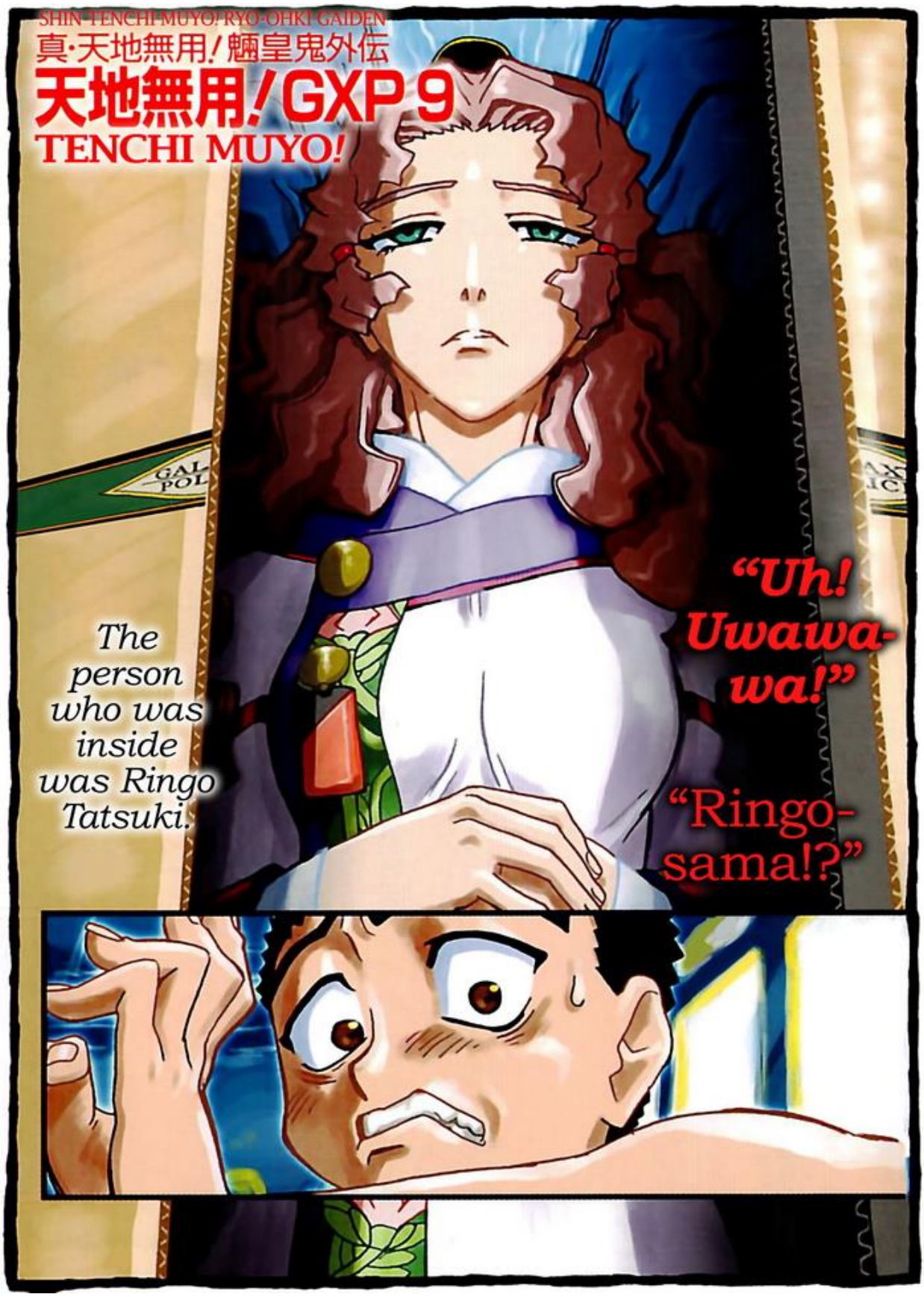
ファンタジア文庫


SHIN-TENCHI-MUYO!-RYO-OHKI-GAIDEN
真·天地無用!魎皇鬼外伝
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TENCHI MUYO!
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The person who was inside was Ringo Tatsuki.
"Uh! Uwawa-wa!"
"Ringo-sama!?"

Karen was wearing a lightly equipped battle suit. As for Suiren, she was wearing a fully equipped battle suit.
"You... Especially Karen and Suiren! Where do you two think you're going? A battlefield?"
"...Now then, you be given a lecture on how to act on Earth."
Kiriko stood in front of the monitor as an instructor. Veins were popping out near her temples, but she made the declaration while trying to hide the anger in her voice.

"Just how far can we go?"
Kiriko felt unspeakable distress at those words and face.
"...Don't leave me."
Her voice sounded childlike, as if fading away.

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* * * **Translators' note: This is the start of the novel equivalent of GXP episode 16. * * ***

Chapter One: An Incident

It was a routine matter for Seina. An hour before they had reached Earth to begin their vacation, they picked up a distress signal that was routed through to them from headquarters. Seina's ship was relatively close, so he had to divert from finally seeing his parents again to check it out.

"The target ship is still here but it seems nonfunctional, I'm also reading enemy ships."

"If we were able to use our super-hyperspace jump to get here, we would have been able to get here in time."

They couldn't because the ship's ability to jump like that was top secret and this wasn't an ordinary decoy mission, so they had orders not to use it.

"Can we stop the enemy ships?"

"Of course!" Amane said happily.

"Wait! High energy reaction!" Kiriko reported and suddenly all the enemies were surrounded by a white light.

"They're committing suicide! Damn, they must want to hide the evidence of what they're doing here!"

"The precise scan has finished, there are 15 escape capsules."

"They must have stuck around to hunt the survivors down, what's their status?"

"There are nine responses coming from the capsules, but there is only one putting out a life reaction."

"What do you mean?" Amane asked, confused. Seina didn't understand what that meant and felt a bit confused by the situation.

"Let's hurry up and recover them anyways." Kiriko said looking at Seina. Seina nodded.

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When a ship was attacked by Space Pirates and the inside of the ship was destroyed, on-site verification was usually done by dedicated probes and nano-machines. That way they could quickly investigate the inside of the ship while staying in their own. It was partially also to prevent someone's space suit from accidentally springing a leak with all the debris in the area. Another reason was that it kept them from having to expose Seina to the miserable sight of all the dead on the ship.

Kiriko did the probe search herself, so she could make sure Fuku didn't see it either.

“How is the inside of the ship?” Seina looked worried; Kiriko was a little hesitant to answer.

“There are no survivors inside the ship, we are currently collecting the bodies while conducting a precision scan of the site.”

“Is that so?”

“Miah?” Fuku noticed the look on Seina's face. Although she didn't know exactly what was going on because of Kiriko, she had realized it was bad from the look on Seina's face.

“How about the capsules?” Seina asked, noticing Fuku's anxiety to distract her. Of course, he wanted to distract his own anxieties as well.

“The capsules have been recovered, but since they don't seem to have survived, I'll get to them once I'm done with the survey.”

“Okay ... How is the other capsule?” Seina asked while stroking Fuku on the shoulder.

“It's currently being collected by Amane, Hakuren, and Karen.”

“Is that so ... are there any other survivors?” Seina seemed to be praying, but his wish was in vain and there were no survivors in the other capsules.

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In the medical room of the Kamidake, a boy about five years old, the only survivor, was laid down.

“... It's okay, he has no noticeable trauma and there are no abnormalities with his body.” Kiriko who was scanning the boy’s body, told Seina with a smile.

“That's good but ...” Although Seina was relieved, He looked at the boy who was sleeping and made a clouded expression.

“Hakuren, how are things going on your end?”

“Recovery of the bodies is complete, and we're done sorting them.”

“Have you found any of the survivors' family?”

“From the genetic data we identified the mothers escape capsule, we found his father in the ship. The damage to both of them is quite drastic and it will be necessary to correct a few things before they are resuscitated ... ...”

They could reproduce some of their damaged body parts, but they had to be careful so they wouldn't suffer from a mental shock when resurrected.

“I trust your judgment, please continue working.”

“Roger that.”

“I hope we can help them.”

The father was shot while trying to help the mother and child escape, then the mother released the capsule with the child, and she managed to get herself onto a capsule somehow. From the scan they could deduce a detailed record of what happened

(I guess I should be happy that at least one of them was saved ... ... huh?) Seina noticed and Fuku staring disturbingly at the boy.

”Fuku? ..... Fuku!”

Seina unexpectedly raised his voice to the surprisingly cold eyed Fuku.

“Hmmm Miah.” Fuku came back to reality, she shook her tail at Seina happily.

(...I wonder what was going through her mind just now) Seina thought. Those cold eyes did not match what he had come to expect from Fuku.

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“Everything is complete. We've taken as much data as possible.” Amane announced.

“Should we analyze the data here, it's not like we can do anything else.”

“No, we better leave some work for the analytics team, so they get paid.”

“Let's hand over the data as is, we don't want them to know how well the Kamidake can analyze things anyways.”

“Yeah... just like our hyperspace navigation... it will seem strange if they see we analyzed it over such a short amount of time.”

“I know we can't use our ships full abilities all the time ... but I wish we could, so we would have been able to save more than just that child ... .” Seina said, a bit dissatisfied with everyone's opinion.

“It is an everlasting dilemma that those who have Juraian Royal ships and Philosophers at the Academy face, knowing that the technology you have can help the people in front of you. But it can also cause even greater disasters. The only thing we can do is turn a blind eye ...”

“A great disaster?”

“High level technology is often seasoned in battle. It's not an exaggeration to say that most technology is used by the military the first time. Royal ships, and ships like Ryo-Ohki and the Kamidake have great power, but it should be used responsibly.”

“If something went really wrong it could cause an intergalactic war.”

People naturally seek to maintain the same or slightly higher power as their opponents. However, if they knew that their power was unobtainably more advanced than their own, a war could develop from that fear alone.

“..... Could it really get that bad?”

“And when trying to gain that power, it’s often the personality of those involved that is the most devastated. I'm ashamed, just remembering how we tried to build a subsystem for Fuku.”

It was an un-objective weapon and one that was heartlessly made. All they cared about was whether or not it could execute instructions reliably. As if it was possible to make Fuku operate reliably just by turning on a switch.

“.....”

“Of course, that's why they use disguises for the ships if possible and tamper with records. Royal ships are easy to disguise, without the wood exterior it's just a small unit. It’s easy to conceal from other countries, but for this ship that would be difficult don't you think?”

“……Yes.”

“Fortunately, since we are acting directly under and reporting only to Airi now, it is easy to tamper with the records. But when we're formally deployed like this, we need to maintain the image that we're just another ship in the fleet. I'm sure it's just a matter of time though that everyone finds out. But for now, it has to be hidden until that becomes impossible.”

“Yes, I understand.”

To further complicate things, Seina was still a minor. Giving such a powerful ship to a youth, when youthful people were seldom able to responsibly wield such things would cause extra tension. There were no adults who trusted truly important decisions to youth.

Especially Seina, with his ridiculously high probability bias. He couldn't afford to make a mistake. He could cause a disaster to spin out of control with little momentum. And with the Kamidake he had power comparable to a royal ship. As such, Seina had to live with the same dilemmas that those with royal ships did.

“Do we know the identity of the survivor?”

“He was registered in the central gene bank, but we don't know why he and his family were on the ship or why the ship was attacked.”

The data of the boy was displayed, and his parents' photos were also displayed beside him.

“Oh, those are his parents, and other relatives are ... ... None.”

“Well, I am fortunate to have been able to at least save this child. I guess there's no other way to think of it.”

“Well, since he is the only witness. We will have to hand him over to those in charge together with the data we collected.” There was nothing else that Seina could do for him.

“Captain, the boy has regained consciousness.” Ryoko reported. Seina and the others headed for the transfer gate to the medical area immediately.

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An incident occurred at the same time as consciousness returned to the boy, in the area where the capsules full of bodies were placed.

Gryan! Blades protruded from the inside of a capsule, breaking it open from the inside, corpses with blades for arms came out. The first corpse unlocked another capsule, and those corpses unleashed the others, one after another. An alarm was triggered instantly, but Seina was not aware of it because the alarm for the capsules were set to a low priority, and they were busy paying careful attention the boy.

Chapter Two: Round Way

*** * * Translators' note: Disclaimer: Extremely edgy content. * * ***

"We did it! We've captured the Kamidake and its crew." Tarrant jumped out of his chair in response to his aide's report. "We will arrive at the rendezvous point in 30 minutes."

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Thirty minutes later, the Daedalus, which jumped out to the rendezvous point, opened its huge mouth-like hatch and swallowed the Kamidake.

Tarrant paid little attention to the unique ship, rather his interest was directed to the detained women who were being transported off of the Kamidake.

Tarrant's subordinates had their eyes fixed on their prey as well as they were brought to the Daedalus.

The humans who were brought aboard the Daedalus, always ended up as toys for Tarrant's crew, without exception. In the end they all ended up as pieces of meat.

Only Tarrant was truly psychotic, the others in his crew were in fact only that way because they took drugs to ensure they would act that way. They took them to be just as psychotic as Tarrant lest one of them slip up and be purged for not being able to perform an expected act satisfactorily. This time however Tarrant's only interest was Seina and Kiriko. He showed no interest in the other women, even Amane and Gyokuren, with their rare beauty.

In other words, his subordinates were excited because they got to handle the other members of the crew. Even the subordinates who were too low rank to probably participate would at least have a high probability of being allowed to watch. Even with their enhanced madness there were those who thought that disposing of the girl's afterwards was outrageous. In fact, among the executives, an arrangement was made to divert Tarrant's attention and to store the girls outside the Daedalus. All they could do for now was to pray that Tarrant didn't notice.

“At last, we meet again.” Tarrant headed from the bridge to the front of the large, armored dock, he didn't look at the others but instead walked right up and stared straight at Kiriko and Seina's faces.

“Tarrant, you bastard.” Kiriko said. Tarrant came close to Kiriko and stroked her gruffly.

“... ... Finally, I'll get to make you mine ... ... uhuhuhu.” Tarrant enjoyed seeing Kiriko's intimidating gaze that glared at him with the same murderous expression he had once seen. It gave him sexual pleasure. “Hnng!”

He quickly diverted his line of sight. The main dish was still ahead of him, Seina was the hors d'oeuvres. Tarrant's eyes then turned to Seina. His scared expression was also a treat for Tarrant.

“Do you remember this?” Tarrant took out the knife Seina had stabbed him with and flashed it before Seina's eyes. He raised his sleeve and showed Seina the scars that had been left behind.

“I let it scar up so I wouldn't forget to get my revenge on you, Seina Yamada.”

“.....” Seina gulped in fear. It made Tarrant feel even better. His hand trembled with the knife.

“Good!” Tarrant restrained his hand with his other hand. He had to calm himself, so he didn't end Seina right then and there.

“Tarrant, I've prepped the usual room.” Tarrant's aide said.

“Huh! Oh, is that so? Let's get them back there so I can take this nice and slow but first...!” Tarrant pressed the switch on the knife and the blade sprung up. He jammed it right into Seina's arm where he had been stabbed. And when he did the room was enveloped by a flash of light, huge explosive blasts hit Tarrant's ship.

“What was that!?” An executive on the bridge shouted.

“The Enemy ship has launched an attack! I'm reading a High-Level energy reaction!!” Another operator shouted as the Kamidake began firing.

The Daedalus ruptured from the inside like a watermelon exploding.

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“The Daedalus has exploded ... ... It was completely destroyed.”

On the bridge of Kamidake, Seina who was supposed to be caught was staring at the blown-up Daedalus.

“Captain, are you ok?” Kiriko who noticed Seina's expression seemed a little confused.

“... ... ... was it really ok for us to do this ... Of course, I know that the other party was Tarrant but... ...”

“We have standing orders to destroy the Daedalus if we ever discover it.” Amane answered brightly.

“But what if we killed prisoners they had on board...”

“On the Daedalus, there are no living human beings other than the crew, this is a well-known fact among the other pirates.” Erma gave a smile with discomfort mixed in.

“I'm still surprised they fell for those ani-roids.”

The things on Tarrant's ship were just holographic force field bodies with a pseudo-body that moved based on personal data. They weren't even programmed well enough to fight but they worked well enough as decoys.

“Yeah, it's a good thing we figured out that Fuku could make them... even luckier that Fuku figured out what was going on... We should have been more observant.” Seina turned his head towards Kiriko.

“It's ok, it's okay! .... We haven't had the ship that long, and this was a surprise event...” Kiriko said and then she looked at Fuku.

Earlier the boy and the other bioroids who had been taken onto the ship had begun to make their move when Fuku detected them. She brought it up on screen for everyone to see, then she brought the ani-roid system to their attention and sent the bioroids to a fake version of the bridge to capture the fakes.

“We are safe, thanks to Fuku-chan.” Kiriko stroked and caressed Fuku's head.

“Myan!”

“You did a great job, Fuku”

“Mya ~ ~” Fuku was very happy.

“At any rate, we now know it's possible to control those force field bodies remotely .... We should study the system a little more, it could be very useful. I can think of a large range of applications.”

“I never expected Airi-san's perverted personal data constructs from NB to be useful, ahahahaha.”

“It's a strange feeling being helped by her perverted hobbies.” Hakuren said, everyone nodded.

Especially Kiriko. She remembered when the force field body of her was touched by Tarrant and shuddered like it was her own.

“Even so, I was amazed by the enemy’s bioroids, they were difficult to detect and even read as normal humans to all our sensors ... ...”

“There's a rumor that Tarrant has preserved the technology development department that the Shank Guild owned back in its prime ... ... Those rumors may be true.”

“Well, we should get a sample of one of the bioroids and send it to Airi.”

“I wonder how Fuku found out and how she knew how to act in anticipation of the enemy's movement? She's just been born and has no experience ... ...”

Seina was concerned about Fuku's expression he had seen earlier. She had on a cold-hearted blank eyed expression that was different from Kiriko, Seto and Airi's... and yet he felt he had seen that expression somewhere.

“Well, the Kamidake has all the crime data from the GP database, maybe she assumed what to do from there ...”

“Washu did make this thing... It probably has an advanced crime prediction program.”

“We can't even begin to imagine how powerful the Kamidake really is ... Or how powerful it will be. For now, we better not read into it too deeply. We can ask her when we meet her.” Kiriko said.

“I agree.” Seina said, pushing his anxiety into the bottom of his heart. “Well then... let's wrap this case up and take a vacation.”

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About an hour later, Airi received a detailed report from Kiriko. Airi nodded after reading it. “OK, we'll take everything from here, have the bioroid body looked at by Washu-sama.”

“OK.”

“Thank you for your hard work. Have a nice holiday, Kiriko. Good luck.”

“But Airi-san, —” Airi sent a meaningful wink, and switched the broadcast off quickly.

“Hmm... It seems like Tarrant is still hiding the old Shank Guilds scientific research lab, doesn't it?” Mikami, who was watching Airi's exchange, said.

The original Shank Guild was in the past a Space Pirate Guild on a scale comparable to the current Daruma Guild. It was said that they had a large research organization similar to the Juraian Royal Academy before being dismembered after losing a war with Jurai. However, when the Guild was dismantled no trace of it was found... ...

“They developed the Daedalus and a weapon that sank a third-generation ship ... ... It wouldn't be possible for them to keep making things of that magnitude now ... but they are certainly working on some things.”

“I doubt it will help them against that ship.”

“With the data that the Kamidake has, Washu should be able to solve the mysteries of the Daedalus for us, I'm glad they took the bait.”

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The incident with the Daedalus was also reported to the headquarters of the Daruma Guild, the Big Daruma. The Big Daruma always moved, never staying in one place. Inside it there was a small natural planet which was protected by outer armor. There was a satellite as large as the moon orbiting it.

The figure of Daruma was hidden in the darkness, and even the silhouette of his appearance could not be confirmed.

“... Is that so, the Daedalus has been destroyed?”

“It seems the rest of the organization is hiding somewhere now, from what I've heard.”

Tarrant’s subordinates were swapped by violent purges so often that it was difficult for them keep spies from joining. Although it was doubtful whether Tarrant even cared about having spies.

“However, Tarrant's death has not yet been confirmed.”

“Ho, that's quite a shame. Well, the Daedalus is one of the great legacies of the Shank Guild. If it's gone it's entirely possible he is too.”

“... ... It's troubling.”

“Although he is a nuisance, Tarrant, is the heir to the guild, but he only thinks of their technology as tools to play with, so he isn't really a threat as far as I'm concerned... ... That boy though... We have to reconsider how we deal with him.”

“Are you going to have us go after Seina Yamada?”

“If he took down Tarrant, he could take us down. This is going to be even trickier than dealing with Jurai or the academy ... ... What's more, there is the issue of that boy's new ship.”

“There is a rumor that it's the same type of ship as Ryo-Ohki. There is certainly a bit of data on it we have that is quite worrying.”

“What about the data?”

“It is difficult to tell because we have insufficient information, but there are reports that there are mysterious gaps in the navigation schedule of the new ship ...”

“Is it a royal ship?”

“The possibility is not zero, because it's said to be the same type of ship as the Ryo-Ohki...”

“Hmm, so what you’re saying is that the rumor is that this ship has ultra-advanced hyperspace traveling systems ... I want you to investigate this with all your power and tell Tarrant's remaining crew about the Daedalus. We must make sure to keep whoever succeeds him a part of our guild.”

“I am aware that their guild is necessary for keeping the Daruma Guild afloat, we need both their personnel and the research data of their research organization.”

“Even so ... If only one person's probability bias can have this much of an effect on us, it won't help. But I think the experimental fleet we’re trying may be the trump card we need.”

“It's ironic at any rate. We got the idea for that fleet from Seina Yamada.”

“How is that going?”

“Although it's still in the testing stage, it has yielded quite interesting results.”

“... ... Ho, this is much more than I ever expected.” Looking at the data displayed in front of him, Daruma smiled.

“Yes, the development team is also surprised with these results honestly. We have future plans to organize 10 fleets of the same type as soon the final test is done, we’re planning mass production if the operation goes well.”

“If all of our guild ships become part of this new fleet, we will have nothing to be afraid of, not even Jurai or the GP ... Fuhuhu ..... A ~ ~ Ha ha ha ha!”

For Daruma it was the first time in a long while he had laughed since Seina went into space.

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“This is dangerous, but we have to keep this under wraps for now.” The report from Daruma was leaked to Nakita who was visibly upset.

“I'm sorry.” Nakita said, while looking at the black cloaked men. He said it with a slightly irreverent attitude. He was offended by the curious behaviors of the men.

“Huh! Well good ... anyway Tarrant should have known better! I bet he's fine.”

“He's a crafty one.”

“Yes, but we can't underestimate Seina Yamada's power.”

“His probability bias is a nightmare that’s for sure.”

“But, if you look at his achievements so far, you can't dismiss his own capabilities as a factor.” Nakita said.

Nakita was not originally from the Kuramitsu family. He was a soldier who through his ability was able to move up the ranks till he was able to marry into the family from the outside. Though it was still immature, he could see Seina's talent ... ... he even felt a bit threatened by it.

“With the new ship given to him and those attached to him as assistants, it’s obvious that his constant victories are just a natural result.” One of the black cloaked men said. Nakita wanted to challenge what he said but remained silent.

“Have you been able to get any detailed data on that new ship? I'm glad it's on our side!”

“I heard rumors that the Kamidake is the same type of ship of as the Ryo-Ohki.....”

“It's just a rumor! Washu Hakubi is still missing! ... Her whereabouts are unknown!” The blacked-out man cursed Nakita's words.

“Has any one ever even confirmed that Ryo-Ohki is Washu Hakubi's work?”

“No. But it's true that Ryo-Ohki fought equally with the Royal ships, if anyone could build such a thing, who do you think it would be? Washu Hakubi, Naja Akara, or one of the other top philosophers?”

“Tarrant's Daedalus is more useful to us than such a ship.”

“What do you mean?”

“Ryo-Ohki's invasion of Jurai is a good example showing how impractical royal ships are. Their offense power is orders of magnitude greater than anything else, but that's it. It's a deterrent but it sucks at acting defensively, and they're extremely lacking in diversity. One on one it's unbeatable, with nine at once if can easily be defeated. Especially if they're forced into playing defense.

“Hmm ... ... I heard that the first version of the Kamidake is going to be Jurai's next major ship, so that might not be the case any longer.”

“Well Tarrant's Daedalus is still better than a general-purpose ship made for mass production, if we can acquire that technology, we can use it to buff up our military.”

“In that sense, his mistake may be a good opportunity for us to acquire his legacy! Notify us immediately when Tarrant's death is confirmed Nakita.”

“Yes. Of course.” Nakita saluted and quickly left the room.

Chapter Three: To the Earth

Seina and the girls gathered in one of the briefing rooms for the staff of the Kamidake.

“... ... Ok, listen up... I'm here to brief you on my planet.” Kiriko announced with authority as she stood before the monitor.

“Miah ... ...”

Seina sat to the side of the lecture with Fuku who was scared by Kiriko's intimidating tone. But why was she speaking in such a harsh tone? Well, it had something to do with what the other girls were wearing.

“I can't believe you guys ... ... Especially you Karen and Suiren! Where the hell do you think we’re going? Why are you dressed to walk into a battlefield?”

Karen had on a lightly equipped battle suit. Suiren, was wearing a fully equipped battle suit.

“… But…” Suiren displayed a picture of the ferocious beasts inhabiting the jungles of Africa, Europe, and South America. “We're just taking appropriate measures in case those things come around ...”

In space the average travel time is almost the same from one side of a planet to the other as it is anywhere else no matter where you go on a planet, so in their eyes, being on the same planet seemed to them like they could be within the same area as those wild beasts.

“As we have explained, the Captain and I are from the Earth's Japan! Don't you remember that the Earth is in an early civilization zone?”

“You don't have to worry about dangerous animals wandering up to Seina and Kiriko's family, if anything, Mihoshi may be more of dangerous threat, Ahahahaha ~ ~!”

“Amane! You’re in no position to judge, what is with that strange look!?” Kiriko shouted as she struck the monitor. Amane was dressed as if she was going to a medieval aristocrat’s ball or a costume party.

“What is so strange about it? This is the look of upper-class society ...”

“We aren't going to such a place! We’re going to see an ordinary family in an ordinary town!”

“As a member of the Kaunaq family, I must dress dignified, especially to meet Seina's parents.”

“I must as well on behalf of the Balta family!” Ryoko, who had changed back from Erma, also said to Kiriko.

“..... Ugh ... I can't believe you two... Do you expect to run around in those outfits the whole time we're there? And I shouldn't have to tell you this. Obviously, you shouldn't wear clothes that use materials that don't exist there! What are you even thinking?”

“Eh……” On their clothes, there were parts that were completely floating in air. On some parts the color changed, and there were parts that were constantly changing in shape like the waves of the ocean.

“And finally, Hakuren ... I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO EVEN START WITH YOU! But if you wear that, you're going to be picked up by the police for looking like a prostitute.”

Karen was wearing a lightly equipped battle suit. As for Suiren, she was wearing a fully equipped battle suit.
“You... Especially Karen and Suiren! Where do you two think you're going? A battlefield?”
“...Now then, you be given a lecture on how to act on Earth.”
Kiriko stood in front of the monitor as an instructor. Veins were popping out near her temples, but she made the declaration while trying to hide the anger in her voice.

Hakuren's dress was a scaly silk like see-through negligee, the scales were lightly opalescent, but it was almost completely see-through, and she was nearly naked underneath wearing what looked like a swimsuit or underwear.

“Surprisingly, Gyokuren is dressed the most decent but ...” Kiriko gazed at Gyokuren with a subtle look. She looked like she had walked right out of “My Fair Lady”. Her outfit resembled something which would have been worn in New York or Paris around the 19th century. Moreover, it suited her perfectly.

“... It's still a bit much for wearing to the Captain's house ...” Kiriko said a bit faintly. Perhaps it was okay. She couldn't make up her mind.

“Why? Does it look bad?” Gyokuren seemed a little shy and looked at Seina.

“Uhm, well ... ... It suits you very well, but the place I live is in the countryside, so you might stick out.”

“But the rest of you have on outfits that are out of the question. Change them immediately!”

“Chhhh ... And I spent so long picking this out.”

“Anyways, this gathering is to give you a lecture on the Earth. So, let's get back to that, this is scenery of our town!” Kiriko projected a picture.

“You should wear casual clothes like you would in a suburban area or a place that was far from the center of the city... This isn't Jurai, please only wear ordinary natural materials here... The season is summer, the highest the temperature gets is 33 degrees Celsius. It's very hot and humid, so it may be better to wear something a bit loose fitting. Wau don't exist here, so Ryoko don't transform.

Please read the profiles I gave you carefully and commit them to memory. We must remain top secret on Earth, any highly visible behavior is strictly prohibited. Gyokuren, don't do anything funny and the rest of you don't try to tease her into doing anything! Of course, Earthlings don't have Bio-Enhancement, so be careful what you do in front of people. I will be screening everything you bring down with you.”

While listening to Kiriko's explanation, Amane was reading the material.

“Everyone will be treated as a foreigner, which will help with you being unfamiliar with Japan to some extent and Seina, don't get distracted just because you're in familiar place. You must remember what I warned you about when you came to the academy.”

“I'll be careful not to be taken to the hospital.”

“Good, then this ends the briefing.”

Amane started checking the acceptable materials for clothes in order to prepare an outfit for the Earth.

The Kamidake had many facilities to manufacture various things necessary for daily life. They were found when Fuku and the ship were fully linked, and of course there were also facilities for sewing clothing. Moreover, provided were both natural materials and artificial synthetic materials, and all of them manufactured superbly. Among them, Amane was astounded because there was a large supply of Juraian silk.

“Whoa, are these ... genuine?” Amane who saw the amount that was stockpiled was puzzled. She couldn't believe it. “I have seen some pop up into circulation several times because of my father's business, but I have never seen this much at one time! Is it really genuine?”

“Amane, you know that the composition of Juraian silk is patent-protected...”

“Of course! But even if it wasn't, the ingredients are expensive and even the illegally made fake stuff could only be sold for half of the regular price!”

In other words, fakes were too risky and the profit margin too thin.

“These all have stamps on the cases, it's genuine, there's some here from Funaho, Misaki-sama and Seto ...” Kiriko's said with a trembling voice.

“Since the royal family produces it by themselves, I've heard that they have quite a large quantity of it to themselves. When we became female officers of Seto, we received a few sets of regular silk clothes ...” Hakuren said also shocked.

“As expected of Seto.”

Amane looked at Seina. Everyone was aware of her intentions, they wanted to ask him if it was alright for them to make clothes with this.

“Even if I have it, I have no use for it, so please enjoy it everyone.”

“Oh, thank you Captain!”

Amane was glad and began to discuss the use of Juraian silk with the others. It was a super luxury item that was rarely obtainable. Even if they had gotten permission to use it, they couldn't decide on what to make.

After a while they decided on matching uniforms. It was decided they would make two uniforms and underwear and two sets of night clothes. By the way, even making all that, the total amount used was less than a single percent of the inventory.

“We can use more.”

“Even so... If we use it up, we won't have any more of it... And it is the best to think about how to use the fabric after actually using it.”

“Then let's hurry up and start sewing.” Even with that said they had to choose the design.

Kiriko made use of the tremendous amount of clothing data that was in the Kamidake's database and joyfully began sewing clothes for them to use on Earth.

Two days later, the Kamidake arrived on Earth.

Chapter Four: To the Yamada Family

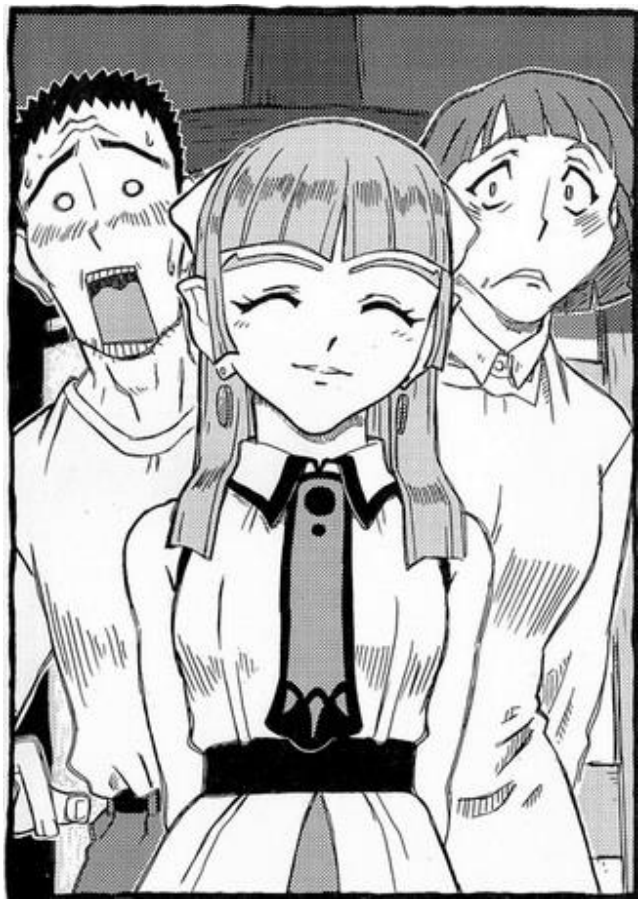
The Kamidake descended to Earth while cloaked and docked in the subspace gate in Tenchi's pond. They got out of their ship and were greeted by Sasami who got distracted playing with Fuku.

When they inquired about Tenchi's whereabouts, they were informed that he was busy at the moment. So, they asked if Washu was home. Washu coincidentally popped in just as they asked and greeted Seina and Fuku. She quickly tried to duck out, but Seina told her that the others wanted to meet her, especially Erma. But she wasn't in the mood for that and told him she had maintenance to do on the Kamidake first and left.

They decided to walk to Seina's home instead of taking a van because they didn't want to use fossil fuels and they wanted to see the scenery of Seina's home planet.

After Seina and the girls got past the mountain area between Tenchi's house and Seina's, they were seen by some of his acquaintances who heard he was coming back. They noticed the pretty girls with him and took pictures with their phones and sent them out and soon more people were coming by to greet them as they walked to his home so they could get a good look at the girls with him...

However, when Kiriko took him to his house. It still said it was the Yamada residence on the outside, but it was a mansion over 5 times larger than his old house. He was surprised, but he was greeted by Yoshiko who took him inside and called his parents to come greet him, and they came out with Neiju.



"... Why are you here Neiju?"

"... How are you, Seina?"

"... Who are these people?"

All three questions were asked at the same time by Seina, Neiju and his parents after a moment of silence.

Chapter Five: What's in the Box?

Seina's parents greeted everyone and urged them to come sit down.

Seina sat down and Kiriko poured everyone tea.

“But why are you here Neiju.”

“Minaho dropped me off.”

“Oh, you know each other?”

“Yes father. The other day I got into some trouble and Seina and his team kept me safe.”

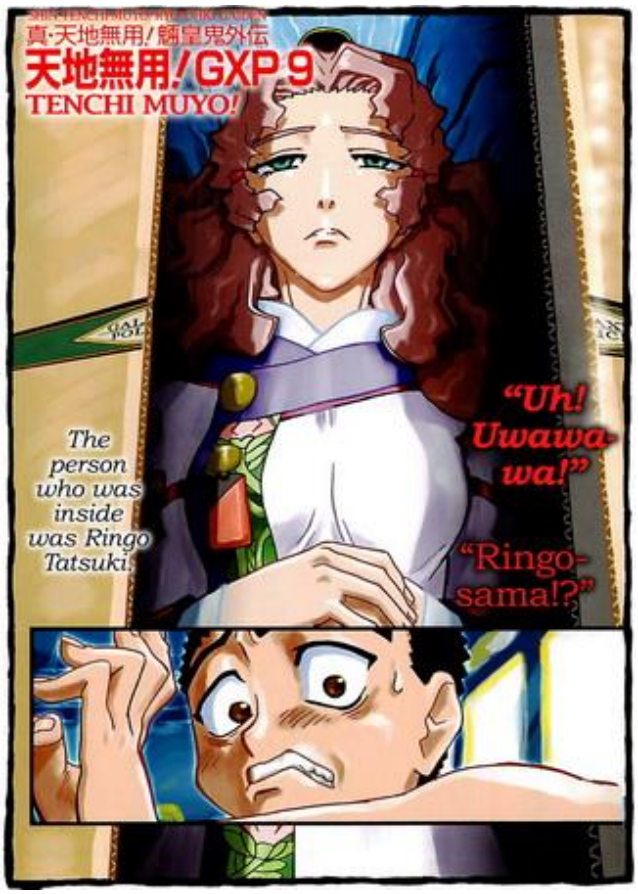
“Father? ... Well, I guess I can't say no to a cute girl like you calling me that.”

“Did she tell you anything else?”

“Yes, you are now assigned to be my escort. Here's the paperwork.” Neiju handed him a letter that had Seto's seal on it, he opened it up.

“... This letter is to officially assign you to guard Neiju Na Melmas. From now on she will be joining your team... By order of both Kamiki Seto Jurai, and Airi Masaki ...”

“She's what?!”



“I look forward to being part of the team!”

“.... PS have you seen the luggage I sent with her yet?”

“.... Luggage?”

“Oh right, when Neiju was dropped off here they also brought a big box, it's in here.” Seina's mother opened a screen door to reveal a large, refrigerated shipping box.

(No way!) When Kiriko saw it, she prayed it wasn't what she thought it was.

Seina went up to it and opened the seal with his handprint.

Psssssssssh! The sound of air escaping ran out as it opened to reveal Ringo inside asleep.

“Aaaaah!” Everyone was taken aback, especially Kiriko who was being reminded of a past sin of hers.

“R-...Ringo?!” Seina went to check her pulse and suddenly she started to wake up which scared him.

“Oh...Seina? Is this a dream? I don't remember going to bed.”

“Do you know where you are?”

The nanobots quickly wore off and she took a deep breath, closed her eyes then opened them to look around.

“Seina..... what is this all about?” His mom asked, confused.

“Are we... at your home?” Seina nodded.

“I'm sorry to alarm everyone... I bet this is the work of my boss...” She got out of the box and greeted his mother.

“My name is Tatsuki Ringo, and I work for a business that is partners with Seina Yamada. Seina has rescued our company from crisis many times and I'm so glad to finally be able to meet you so I can express my thanks... Originally, my boss was supposed to come here to greet you herself, but it seems she has sent me instead. Please forgive her.”

“Heh... Uhm... Ringo's boss is also my main benefactor.”

“It's nice to meet you, please take your time to wake up. I thought you were dead... You sure have a funny boss.”

“Do all of you work for her?”

“Oh no. Were Seina's assistants.” Amane said.

“His assistants? Really?”

“Kiriko would you please introduce us.”

“I, uhm, uh....” Kiriko was visibly upset so Hakuren spoke to her over a private communication channel.

“I remember you sent Ringo back to Jurai a while back in this exact manner. Is that why you’re so nervous? I thought you two made up.”

“I know! I know! But I sent her back to keep her out of the fight for Seina, and now Seto has mailed her here!”

“Um, hello... Kiriko seems to be distracted... Yoshiko can you get her attention?”

“Huh! Oh, sorry! Next to me is Amane Kaunaq. The team's vehicle specialist pilot and controller of our weapons systems.”

“Nice to meet you Father, Mother, Yoshiko.”

“Oh my, you’re so pretty, I thought you were a model!”

“Well, I was once actually.”

“Haha, I knew it!” Seina's mother said.

“Next is Ryoko Balta. Our information analysis specialist.”

“Nice to meet you, Ryoko Balta.”

“Thank you.”

“The next few girls have codenames to keep them confidential since they work security for us.”

“I am a leader of this four-person team. I am Hakuren, nice to meet you.”

“They have been dispatched to us by Ringo-sama's boss as our assistants and substitute personnel.”

“I'm sorry our kid is so much trouble, please give our regards to your boss.”

“Oh no, it's worth it. We don't mind, and we trust Seina's judgment.”

“Worth it? What...” His mother was confused.

“I'm Karen. Nice to meet you.”

“Next is Gyokuren.”

“Nice to meet you.”

Everyone was happy that she kept it simple.

“Well then, now that were done with that... How about we...”

“Wait! What do you mean there's one more...?”

“One more?”

“Huh?” Everyone said at once, not just his mother.

“I'm Suiren...” She said in a voice that seemed to fade.

“Ah! Oh! OH! Hi Suiren! I didn't notice you! I'm sorry.”

But Suiren was used to this, and she just sat and sipped tea.

*** * * Translators’ note: This is the first confirmation that the Seto scouts’ names are actually aliases. * * ***

“Miah!”

“Oh, I forgot we have one more person! This is Fuku!”

Yoshiko stared at Fuku as she approached Neiju. “Hey Neiju, can I hold her?”

“Oh, ok.”

Yoshiko took Fuku from Neiju and petted her. “Oh, she is so cute, can I keep her big brother?”

“Uhm... No ... You see, uhm...” Seina couldn't explain that she was a computer unit, so he stuttered for a moment.

“She is one of our important teammates.” Kiriko stepped in.

“Teammate?”

“Like a drug sniffing dog or a seeing eye dog, she was made especially for Seina by a researcher, don't you see the fancy jewel on her head?”

“Oh, I see it, it’s pretty!”

“Also, she is very attached to Seina, Fuku do you want to go see him?”

“Mya!” She ran to Seina and cuddled him.

“Oh, I see, she seems happy.”

“But you can play with her while she's here.”

“Yay!”

“Well, if that's all done with, then we have to head off to the shop. But we have a welcome party planned for everyone tonight when we get back.

“Hey, uhm... Since you remodeled the house... Where is the shop?”

Yoshiko handed him a flyer for the Yamada superstore. “We were doing so well that we had to buy a bigger location! It just opened up a few months ago actually.”

“This way when you come back home it won't interfere with our business.”

“So, you just want me to stay here till you’re done is what you’re saying?”

“Yes, but don't think we’re ungrateful for all the money you've given us.”

“Money?”

“Uhm... Well...” Kiriko got nervous.

Ringo stepped in. “Actually Seina, you've been making quite a lot more than just your salary. There are bounties and other rewards that go to you every time you capture someone... It was quite a lot of money, so we've had Kiriko manage it for you, so it didn't get all spent or stolen.” She said, which made Kiriko only feel worse about herself.

“I didn't want to tell you, but I've been sending part of the interest back to your family to help them out.”

“The interest?”

“You're not mad, are you?”

“No. I understand.”

“Well then... We have to get going... It may take us a little while to get back once the stores closed. We have to finish out accounting settlement today.”

“ACCOUNTING?” Ringo's eyes lit up at that word.

“We have to see how much we have netted these past three months since opening the store and give that info to the bank. But it's not as easy as it used to be because this new store gets so much business, so it will take a while.”

“I am the head accountant where I work. Will you please let me assist you?” She jumped to ask them like a carnivorous beast.

“No, we couldn't.”

“Auntie, I suggest you take her help.” Kiriko said.

“Well ... If Kiriko says so... Then I guess we have no choice.”

“Oh good!”

“Oh, may we also help out at the store?” Hakuren volunteered.

“Oh no, you're our guests there's no need for that.”

“Please, we would love to.”

“Auntie, these women are the kind who like to keep busy, please by all means let them help you. Think of it this way, you can get to learn how competent the people assisting your son are.” Kiriko advised.

“Well, ok, if you insist.”

“Karen and I will help after work to prepare for the welcoming party. Seina, Neiju, you can stay and keep Yoshiko and Fuku company.”

“Understood!”

“Ooh brother! How about I show you and Neiju our new garden!” Yoshiko said.

Kiriko smiled and she and the other girls left with Seina's parents.

Chapter Six: Mr. Guinea Pig, Please Have a Seat

“This is! ... This is a lot of data!” Washu said ecstatically as she looked over the data from the Kamidake. “Uhuhuhuhuhuhuhu ..... Seina really is the best bug checker I could have ever hoped for. This is nearly twice the data that Ryo-Ohki has gathered over five thousand years... And in such a short amount of time ... I'm going to have to go through all of this thoroughly.” Washu started to scroll the data lightly and stopped scrolling at a certain data point.

“Oh, well, will you look at this!” Washu's expression became very steep.

“The Battleship Daedalus, led by Captain Tarrant Shank ..., descendant of the Shank Guild. So maybe... Where is it ...?” Washu scrolled through the data again.

“Here we go!”

“Washu-chan, are you OK?”

“Oh, Tenchi! It is unusual for you to come in here.” Washu smiled a devious smile. Since she had met him, she had treated him like a guinea pig, and so Tenchi avoided approaching Washu's research facility.

However...

“I heard that Seina returned home, so I came to see him ...”

“I'm sorry, they already got here and left. I completely forgot to tell you. That may also be due to Seina's bad luck, Ahahahaha!” Washu motioned for Tenchi to pull up a chair.

Tenchi cautiously examined the chair and sat down. Fortunately, there were no tricks to the chair.

“Washu-chan, what do you think about Seina's bad luck?”

“He's like a younger brother to you, Tenchi, isn't he?”

“Yeah ... I've known him and Kai since I was little...”

“... You must really want him to be happy.”

“Hah ... Yeah so do Seto and Airi ...”

“His probability bias is the largest I am aware of. Of course, there are probably people with maxed out ones but there are no examples of them surviving birth. It's amazing how long he's managed to survive.”

“But how is Seina alive?”

“Oh, he has other special abilities.”

“Special abilities?”

“He has an ability that helps him personally dodge a lot of his probability bias ... An Absolute Crisis Avoidance Ability.”

“An Absolute Crisis Avoidance Ability...?”

“Well, in a way he has good luck that helps counteract his own personal bad luck.”

“... Oh, I see ...” Tenchi pitied Seina and breathed a deep sigh.

“Well, there's more to it than just that. A lot of it is that he has learned subconsciously to avoid most things. I think the only reason he has learned that is because of people like you, Kiriko, and Tsukiko giving him a reason to want to avoid such things.”

“Oh, is that so? ... So, then his luck is made better by us after all?”

“Well... maybe!” Washu started to check some data.

“What's the matter?”

“There was something interesting in Erma, Airi's secretaries, report ... There it is!” Washu looked at the data. “Please don't get your hopes up... But I may have found a way for us to possibly reverse that probability vector.”

“Really!?” Tenchi’s expression brightened.

“Really truly! Would you like to be the first person I test to find out?”

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“Yes ... Yes... I understand... I'll tell everyone right away.” Kiriko hung up the cell phone and put it in a holder attached to her belt. She went back to prepping vegetables for dinner.

“Karen, I just got a call from Washu. Tomorrow, I need everyone to go to her lab. She needs to examine us, it's for something related to Seina, be sure tell everyone.”

“Understood, I'll let the others know about it too. So, Kiriko, like I mentioned earlier, what do you think about making a menu of pre-made dishes to sell in the shop, I think it would be a hit.”

“Yes ... It would be nice... What do you think of that Auntie?”

“I think that I would like to have something like that in the future, but I would need to find good employees like you to pull it off.”

“Am I really as good as Kiriko?”

“The way you worked at the shop was awesome. Kiriko, don't you agree?”

“Yeah.” Kiriko looked at Karen and nodded.

Karen, who had gone to the store, saw the pre-made dishes and boxed lunches and tried some. But she was dissatisfied with their taste and found them unappetizing. So, she looked at the things sold at the store and the pre-made items already for sale at the store and thought up a prototype menu in her head and decided to try some making some of it for dinner that night.

“Anyway, today I want to make some of the idea's I had for the menu that would be perfect for this season, I hope you like it.”

“There's no doubt that if you and Kiriko make it, it will be delicious, but it might be hard for me to reproduce it.”

“Then I'll change the recipes a bit to make it easier ... I don't think it would change things too much.”

Please do so.”

“Alright!” Karen was very tomboyish, but she seemed very cute as she smiled happily.

(I really liked how the other girls did at the store too, especially Ringo. She would be a great employee) Kyoko thought to herself when suddenly …

“Mia! Mia!” Fuku ran into the kitchen.

“Oh, what's wrong? Are you thirsty?”

“Oh. Fuku-chan must want to watch us cook in the kitchen.”

“I hear Ryo-chan was the same when she was young. Be sure to keep her away from the flames and the knives.”

“Maybe we should put her somewhere up high so she can see everything without having to move around.”

“Yeah! How about on the refrigerator?”

“Good, then she can see everything.”

“Mia!”

“Let's just wipe off dust real quick.” Kyoko took out a small step stool and wiped off the top of the refrigerator with a cloth. Then she folded the towel and put it on a chair. “Here you are, little one.” Kyoko put Fuku up on the fridge. “There, can you see better?”

“Mia!” Fuku shook her tail and looked around with joy.

“Thank you, Auntie,” Kiriko said.

“Hey mother, have you seen Fuku-chan?” Yoshiko and Neiju came running in a little later.

“She's on the fridge, she wanted to watch us cook.”

“Oh, you were right Yoshiko-chan ... She was here after all.”

“It must be fun to watch them cook.” Yoshiko said looking at Fuku on the fridge.

“I would like to help, is that okay?”

“Oh, jump right on in Neiju-chan.”

“Neiju, please help me over here.” Neiju and Yoshiko scooted up next to Karen and began to help with the vegetable peeling.

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At that time, Seina was in the room that Yoshiko told him was his, by himself.

“It sure is quiet in here.” His room, which was wider and cleaner than before, had nothing in it but his familiar desk. Originally, Seina didn't have much. Just his desk and a bicycle he called the Kai special.

* * * **Translators’ note: A desk was a big focal point of Kazuki's bedroom as well in Dual. * * ***

Everything else would always break down or he would lose it, or it would get stolen.

Like the scale of the house, the size of his new room puzzled him at first, but when he got used to it, it felt even narrower.

“I am getting too used to living in large places.” Seina opened the sash for the curtains and the door to the veranda.

When he saw the country scenery from the second floor, he finally felt relieved. “Here I was never able to do anything ... I had nowhere to go ... If I traveled, someone would have been hurt by my luck, so it's only natural I am so used to being in my room ...” His room was like a prison for Seina.

The only place where Seina was ever free was in Masaki village.

Seina's phone began to vibrate. “Oh, right ... I forgot they gave me this to use on Earth.” The moment he hit the answer button, Kai’s angry voice came from the speaker.

“Seina! We’re not best friends anymore ~ ~ ~ !!”

“... Kai ... ... what are so suddenly angry at me for?”

“You came back with a bunch of hotties and didn't even think about introducing them to me? I'm supposed to be your best friend!”

“Oh, that's right, I'm sorry. I got a bit busy, but they are just work colleagues and various assistants.”

“... Your colleagues? Well, that's just sad. They’re all so beautiful. I'd resign just to date them, ha ha ha!”

“I know, but they’re like my support team, please don't be annoying to them. They try hard to look after me.”

“What! So, are they like your own personal goddesses? You better introduce me soon! No ... ... Now! Do it now!”

“They are busy helping Kiriko right now ...”

“Well, then I will come over! Hey Ma, I'm going over to Seina's house! He wants me to come over right away, so I don't need you to make dinner ~~ Gaah ...” He heard Kai get drug far away, and heard familiar striking sounds, heard the footsteps approaching the phone. He knew who was about to pick up.

“Hello, is that you Seina?”

“Oh Aunt... Tsukiko ... It's been a long time.” For a moment, Seina hesitated to call her Aunt Tsukiko because he remembered the kiss between himself and Kuisu who turned into Tsukiko on Jurai.

“I am sorry if Kai caused you trouble. I can't believe it’s already been a year, have you seen your family yet? I'm sure their relieved. I hope I'll see you soon, please give your parents my well wishes.” Her gentle voice was the same as usual, but Seina felt there was something different about her from her usual atmosphere.

“I can't. Actually, I can't do anything right now until the store opens. They don't want me coming near it, but I'll try to be by once the store closes.”

“I look forward to seeing you.”

“Should I bring Kiriko with me?”

“Sure. Please don't feel like you have to hurry though… Actually... I'm busy tonight. How about I make you something special tomorrow.”

“Sure! Uhm... Well, I have to go... Bye.” Seina ended the call and breathed heavily, released from the tension.

When Tsukiko said, “I’m looking forward to seeing you,” it had unexpectedly made Seina's heartbeat faster.

“Seina, are you up here?” The door was opened, and Kiriko came in with a knock.

“Oh!! ... Kiriko-san? Please come in.”

“Seina, it's supper time, and the store closes at 7 o'clock, so your father should be back home around 8 o'clock ... Huh...?” Kiriko, looked and noticed that Seina was covered in a blushing sweat.

“Are you ok? Are you tired?”

“Ah ah ah ah, no ... Actually, I just got a call from Kai ... And had a Talk with Aunt Tsukiko...”

“…And?”

“Your mother stopped Kai from coming over here to bug everyone.”

“Jeeze, he's getting to be such a perv... So, what did mother have to say?”

“Oh, not much, she just told me to tell my parents she sends her regards.”

“And?”

“Well, I don't want to have to stay here all tomorrow, so I'm thinking I'll spend tomorrow at Tenchi senpai's.”

“... My mom will be happy to see you, Washu too. She told me she needs me to come by so she can investigate something, so let's go to Masaki village together tomorrow.”

“Okay... Uhm what kind of research ... Does she need me too?”

“She didn't mention you; she may be trying to fine tune the Kamidake to work more efficiently with us. She probably has all the necessary data for you... Oh, yeah, I got sidetracked... Because everyone won’t be back till 7, dinner will be kind of late. If you don’t want to wait you can eat something light.”

“No, I'll be fine, it’s only an hour.”

“I understand, well then please be patient just a little bit longer.”

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“Mia! Miah! Mia!” Fuku watched amazed as the food was set out on the large table in the living room. There were more people than usual, so it was laid out to have a sort of welcome party, and food was laid out on it to look luxurious. Fuku was watching with excitement from the top of a cushion placed high in the corner of the room. Kyoko also looked at the dishes excitedly.

“It sure looks good doesn't it, Fuku-chan?” Kyoko said as she stroked Fuku's excited little head.

“Mya ~ ~, Myan myan!” Fuku purred as Kyoko rubbed her head in her hand.

The noise of a door opening was heard. “I'm home ~~~”

“Oh, welcome home! Fuku, will you go get Seina?”

“Mia!” As soon as Kyoko said that Fuku jumped off and ran through the corridor like a bullet.

Chapter Seven: That Night at the Yamada Family House

Later that night:

“Everyone, thank you very much for your help today. Because of you, we did extra well today, but now work hours are over, let's celebrate...” Hokuto, Seina's father, lifted his glass and looked around at everyone, “cheers!” Clink.

“Here have some more father.” Ryoko poured beer into the Hokuto's empty glass.

“Thank you.”

“Please take this.” Amane puts dishes in front of Hokuto.

“Would you like me to get you some more mother?”

“Thank you, but Gyokuren, you're supposed to be our guests ...” Kyoko noticed how glamorous Gyokuren was and blushed a little as she looked away. If she hadn't, she might have dropped the glass she was holding.

“Mother, I know it can be hard to deal with Gyokuren's beauty. Even we had to get used to it. There's no need to be embarrassed, it happened to us all.” Karen whispered with a wry smile to Kyoko who was a bit embarrassed.

“Well, if you say so, that makes me feel better about it ...”

“I bet you’re wondering if everything is on the up and up with Seina and all these attractive girls?”

“What?”

“Hah, well, Gyokuren was a bit out of control at first ... But Seina is a good kid and if anyone tried anything Kiriko would put a stop to it.”

“I'm surprised anyone would even be interested in him at all.”

“We all respect Seina-sama ... And well, all of us definitely respect what you've had to go through with him ... His bad luck has really strengthened his character and he's a good guy.”

“I didn't do it alone, I had Kiriko's support, and now ... I guess I have your help too.”

“We would all be glad for you to think of it that way.”

“... ... Oh, this so nice, it's like a dream come true ... Thank you all, I know he can be a hassle.”

“Not at all. By the way, the dishes being served tonight are prototypes for the store’s menu, so please tell me your thoughts on them later.”

“Kiriko, this is a welcome party there's no need to bring work here.” Amane said but most of the people eating it disagreed.

“Kiriko this is delicious, isn't it Neiju-chan.” Yoshiko said.

“Kiriko's cooking is top notch.” Neiju said.

“Oh wow, Fuku is already full.” Fuku laid on a towel with a full stomach.

“Oh, are you sleepy, Fuku?”

“Miyaaa ~ ~!” Fuku said. Kiriko was aware of how Fuku felt neglected when they made her sleep alone when they made the subsystem, so she had an idea.

“Hey Fuku-chan, why don't you sleep with Yoshiko and Neiju tonight.”

“I'd like that. It's been a while since I last slept with Fuku.”

“Mya ..... Miah.” Fuku looked at Seina.

“Don't worry, my room is next to Yoshiko's room.”

“Miah.” Fuku nodded little relieved.

Fuku, Neiju and Yoshiko left to take a bath and get ready for bed.

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While taking a bath together Neiju asked Yoshiko a question. “Seina's told me that he regretted not being able to play together when you were growing up, is that really true?”

“Yeah ... A long time ago, my mom bought me a new outfit and I went to show it to my older brother ... But when my brother tried to say something, a car tire hit a nearby pebble and it went through his forehead ... It was amazing, the blood went all over my new clothes.”

“Wow ... So, that really did happen.”

“I was surprised... I desperately tried to comfort my brother who had turned blue in the face. I was crying, “it's going to be ok”, and I was holding him, keeping him up ... But I was stopped by my mother and forced to move away ... Well, it was only natural she did that, but at that time I didn't understand why ... I was very sad.”

“I see. You must have been very worried.”

“From then on I always tried to seem happy or giggle whenever something bad happened ... It might seem sadistic, but I just didn't want him to see me make a sad face.” Yoshiko said sadly, tears floated in her eyes.

“Yoshiko-chan?”

“No, it’s ok, I'm fine.” Yoshiko washed her face with hot water hiding the tears.

“..... Miah.” Fuku also looked anxiously at Yoshiko's face. “Miah.”

“I'm ok Fuku-chan, sorry Neiju-chan, I just remembered the past and got a bit emotional... I'm ok now.” Yoshiko shook her face and smiled.

“My mother said that if Kiriko hadn't show up, she wouldn't have known how she would have managed... I wasn't quite sure what she meant because I was still young, but today I understood once I saw him here with all of you ... Oh, and of course Fuku, too, his mood and atmosphere has changed a lot.”

“Did it get better?”

“Haha yeah, a lot. He almost seems like a normal adult now ... ... but in honesty, it was a bit scary to hear that my brother was coming home.”

“Scary?”

“Since my older brother has been gone, our business and our way of living has improved immensely. It's almost like a dream ...”

“Oh, I understand what you mean.”

“But when my older brother came back, the inside of the house became so bright ... I had expected it to be gloomy again... Thank you so much, Neiju-chan, Fuku-chan ... But ...” Yoshiko felt bad for pushing off his bad luck on them.

“It's okay. For someone with bad luck, there are more people supporting him than most, and everyone who is supporting him is a very good person. Most of all, they love Seina. Also Yoshiko, you may not believe it, but Seina's bad luck is important and valuable for millions of companies and high-ranking people. Even Seina himself was surprised about it, so don't worry, and leave it to us. He's in good hands.” Neiju emphasized brightly as if to blow away Yoshiko's melancholy.

“Really ... I'm glad. Thank you for helping my big brother.”

Yoshiko said as she hugged Neiju and Fuku quietly.

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Hokuto slammed his beer to the table in a good mood and placed his hand on Seina's shoulder. “Oh my, your colleagues are truly excellent.”

“Yeah, they treat me well.”

“No, I mean they're good ... All our employees were surprised.” Hokuto said, Ringo looked away out of embarrassment.

”We finished our settlements super quick, thanks to Ringo, that's a big deal.”

“Father, I didn't want to say anything, but the delay in the settlement seems to be an intentional choice by the accounting team you have. Perhaps the bank's side also has some intentions.”

“Intentions?”

“There is a high possibility that they are collecting data on large-scale stores in this area ... They might use it as a foundation of sorts ...”

“Foundation?”

“Yes, I fear they may try to deprive the Yamada family of the funds to scale and expand.”

“What makes you say that!?” As expected, Hokuto couldn't hide being upset.

“Well, they're still in the data collection stage, but I think that it will change depending on the results that are given to them, but I think that it's surprisingly early to come to a conclusion.”

“Is that so? ... Then, what should I do ...?”

“Please rest assured that I have already issued a request for an explanation to the immediate overseeing branch. I hope we will be able to solve this as peacefully as possible by ascertaining the other side’s intentions. But in some cases it's necessary reach out to the overseas parent company, this may get a bit messy, please pardon me.”

“Huh ...?” Ringo had on a confident face, Hokuto and Kyoko were a bit perplexed. This was something much bigger than they ever expected. As the store got bigger, their duties had expanded far beyond what they ever imagined.

“Don't worry father ... Ringo's accounting section is also known as the “Hyena corps.” Karen gently chimed in to make Hokuto feel secure.

“H- hyena? ... What? Why?”

“Because when they turn us into their enemy, they are so defeated it looks like hyena's attacked them.”

“..... Really? That sounds amazing.”

While watching the smile on Ringo's face as she thought something to herself, Seina’s parents realized that the pretty woman there was a rare kind of demon. For Ringo, who was used to doing this at the national level, a private competition over regional supermarkets was child's play. Even if it wasn't a low-level opponent there was a reason she was known as the “Accounting Princess”. She was absolutely unforgiving regarding accounting.

“We'll make sure your troubles disappear one by one. Father, mother.” Amane cheerfully poured beer into Hokuto's glass. Amane's merriment was like a silver bullet that blew away their anxiety.

“Oh, is that right, ahahahaha!”

Seina felt it was time to excuse himself because things were getting too energetic in the room. “Well, I should be excusing myself right about now ... I have to get up early tomorrow morning to go say hi to Tenchi.” He stood up.

“Aww, do you have to go so soon. I was just getting used to seeing you again.”

“Don't forget, were stopping by my mother's house before we go.”

“Oh, Seina, give Tsukiko and Kai my best.”

“I will ... Now if you don't mind, I'll be going to bed.”

“Good night, Seina,” Seina was sent off and left the room.

When all signs of Seina disappeared, suddenly Ringo and Kiriko became serious. They turned to Hokuto and Kyoko and corrected their posture. Following that, the other girls also became serious.

“What's going on, why have you all suddenly changed?” They were puzzled by the appearances of Ringo and Kiriko.

“I should have told you this much earlier ... I'd like you to apologize firstly for what I have had to put Seina through to get you all of this.”

“What is there to apologize for?”

“I've put Seina on many dangerous missions, despite my responsibility for Seina as his guardian.”

“No, mother, father. If you should blame anyone, don't blame Kiriko. If anyone is to blame, then ...”

“It’s alright, we let raise you him for us. Anyways, we still don't know what you’re apologizing for. Please, at least let us know the reasons first.”

“Yes ... Right …” Ringo said a little disoriented. “It began when Seina-sama went to the Academy, there was a huge attack in the middle of the trip. A massive criminal bust occurred all thanks to Seina-sama, and that was how we found out about his ability.”

“Huh? What do you mean?”

“Seina-san attracted those offenders in mass.”

“Well, that sounds kind of lucky for you now, isn't it?” Hokuto looked at the Kyoko to seek consent.

“That's right ... I'm sorry for those in the transportation car ...”

“Fortunately, he was able to arrive safely.”

“Well, that's good, but ... We should tell you about the first time he rode in a car with us... That was a story...”

“Rocks came flying at us, and the car kept malfunctioning. Ahahaha.”

“That brings us to the next issue ... Seina has never really made any long-distance trips, has he?”

“Well, after we put him on a bus once, those who made it out ok refused to let him participate in any more school trips.”

“That's horrible ...” The girls who were listening in silence were taken aback.

“Oh, sorry ...”

“Our job has a transport department for goods, and there are many valuable items in the packages we ship, and for that reason we often get raided. Sometimes we send out a decoy ...”

“Oh... How interesting.”

“So, is that how he got all this money?”

“Yes, the units to which Seina belongs are remarkably active, and the number of bandits he has captured has been enormous.”

“And well, Ringo-sama has given each of the companies saved by him the opportunity to reward him personally in addition to the base rewards ...”

“But if you consider it as the price of Seina's life, it's nothing at all, and on the contrary, his life can never be exchanged for money ... We are s-sor ...” Ringo bit her lips with a wry face.

“We're just glad that he is so cherished by everyone. All that's important is that my son is happy ...”

“Auntie ...”

“Kiriko, you've noticed the change in him as well, haven't you?”

“Well, I uhm...”

“If he is happy, I see no reason to stop it.”

“Thank you very much ... I'm glad to hear that ... But there is one more problem, it is about you two, and Yoshiko.”

“Us...?”

“Seina's work also brings along with it a lot of resentment.”

“Oh, that.” They nodded, as if they had anticipated it.

“Actually, as the shop's gotten larger, I've been told to think about crime prevention. I'm supposed to get a security device to carry with me soon, and I'll be taking classes as well.”

“Really?”

“Well, we’re also worried about Yoshiko ... But ... Well, is there something wrong?

“Not right now, but know we have the strongest guard system already watching over you. So please don't be so worried.”

They meant Washu and the Masaki family. With their scientific power and military strength, there was no one who could harm the Yamada family. In addition, a high concentration of nano-machines to monitor the area was extended throughout the solar system.

“Thank you very much ...”

“No, we have no way to reward Seina properly for taking on this level of danger.”

“It sounds sufficient to us! Is there something you're leaving out?”

“No but I want you to ask us anything you may want to know. Please think of this as a Q and A session, please ask us anything.” Kiriko said.

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Seina went into the bathroom and realized it was more dangerous to take a bath alone then it was worth. He headed to bed instead.

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“Oh ... What is this?”

In the living room, the females of Seina's team were gathered together at one corner of the table. They were eager to see what was in the several old albums labeled “Seina's Records”.

“Lovely ...” Gyokuren murmured creepily, while looking at the picture of Seina pasted on the album. Everyone got goose bumps.

“Stop being creepy! Stop!”

“He's so adorable ... but he's hurt in every photo.”

“Yes... How pretty...”

“S-stop it!”

“No, it doesn't matter what you say to Gyokuren now. Just let her have one of the books to herself and keep away from her for a while.”

”Yes, that would be lovely.”

“Here you go.” Hakuren gave Gyokuren a loose set of pictures that Kyoko passed to her. Karen moved her to the corner of the room for the time being.

“Wow ... that sure is something, what a really amazing girl.”

“Father, are you OK?”

“What? Huh?” Hokuto said with a high-pitched voice, clearly experiencing a physiological phenomenon that effected his lower extremities.

“Mother, why is he bandaged up all over in every picture?”

“Well, that's just my boy. If I didn't bandage him at home we would be in debt with the hospital, and he wouldn't have been able to go when he got seriously injured.”

“He seems like he's been injured in so many places.”

“That's right, so whenever he was injured, I took a photograph as a memorial.”

“Auntie ... When was this one taken?”

“When he fell into a manhole, oh, and this was the time he stepped on the tricycle pedal wrong.”

“That day you got him sandals right?”

“Yeah, and this was one day when Kiriko-chan came back home with Seina ...”

“He’d fallen into a rice field and rolled into the river. Oh, and here's the time he bicycled over a pigeon and his bicycle did loop de loops and he went down some stairs... I thought that was going to just be a sprain, but it was serious.”

“When did this all start?”

“From the very beginning. All the nurses, Obstetricians and Gynecologists on the day that he was born had a cold and a stomachache. That was nearly eighty people. When he was born, an earthquake occurred here. It suddenly went from clear skies to a thunderstorm, and lightning hit a nearby tree and it caught on fire, and it took the firefighters a while to get here due to heavy rain. Also, there were several registration mistakes made.”

“... I see, that is one heck of a story.”

“Well, now it's a funny story... But, well...”

“……Ah!” Ryoko cried out.

“What?”

“I just noticed something off ... Seina's photo's even when he's pretty severely injured, he's happy in all of them.”

“But when you take pictures you usually smile don't you?”

“Amane-san ... Please look carefully! It's obviously he isn't faking it for the camera.”

“Wow ... You're right ...”

“Yes, there were times when I suspected that his injuries had caused brain damage.”

“I was worried that he might be a masochist! Ahahaha!” Seina's parents laughed. There was a lot of suffering behind their laughs.

“How can you laugh about something like that?”

“He's been like this since he was young... No, from the time he was born, there's nothing else they can do with such bad luck ... Really.” Ringo said, everyone fell silent.

“Oh! By any chance was this taken around this time that he met Kiriko?” Amane pointed at a picture.

“Oh, yeah, you've got a good eye.”

“That must be why his mood changed.... obviously.” She pointed to a picture with Kai and two people laughing with bandages around their head and arms.

“Is that Kiriko's brother? He's laughing together right next to Seina, how did he put up with that?”

“... Well, Kai is an easygoing guy.”

“I guess I understand why Kiriko was frustrated.”

“Amane!” Kiriko held up a fist frustratingly with a cold tone.

“I don't doubt for a moment that he is smiling because of her.” She pointed at the picture of a young Kiriko and Seina. Ryoko smiled. “If anything, in this one she seemed like his big sister.”

“Ah, don't show them that!”

“Haha, you must be grateful for Kiriko. People say it's like Seina has a scary watchdog ... I've heard her referred to as Cerberus.”

“...I have never heard of anyone calling me that!”

“Ahahahaha ~ ~! Well, they wouldn't say it to your face Kiriko.”

“Do you even know what that is?”

“No! I don't!” Kiriko said crankily.

“Oh... Good!”

It seemed that most of Kiriko's reaction had to have been what she was imagining. Amane grinned. Hakuren gazed at the pictures of Seina with a pitiful look.

“He sure had some awful luck.”

“Hmm ... It’s too bad you don't have a picture of his first kiss.” Amane said.

“What what what what!?” Kiriko went into guard mode like Cerberus. Amane laughed.

“You know, when I first met Seina, he got drug into the pond in front of Tenchi's house ... And I had to give him C P R.” She said.

“Uwa!”

“Amane, do you really think that counts??? It is just a standard medical practice ... Kiriko you should know better than that, please calm down.”

“What! DO I NOT LOOK CALM!?”

“Seina's watchdog, eh? I totally see it.”

“Mmm hmm.” Everyone agreed.

“Well, if that doesn't count then you know what does.”

Kiriko flashed back to Kuisu Panta as Tsukiko kissing Seina. “.....” Kiriko was embarrassed as she thought of it.

“... Well, then Seina's first kiss is decided!” They quieted down and figured it was best to drop it and keep searching the album.

“Stop! Wait a moment!”

“… What is it?”

Gyokuren pointed out a picture to Amane.

“Oh!?” They all noticed after a while.

“This is when Kiriko left for space isn't it?”

“Ahk!” Kiriko panicked. It was a group photo taken from that time. There was a radiant and relieved looking Kiriko, a lonely Seina, and smiling Tsukiko.

“... Ah, don't look at that!” Kiriko turned red.

“Where is Kai?”

“Kai must have been taking the picture... But look, there's Kiriko's bags ...”

“Ah!” Tsukiko was stuck to Seina as closely as possible in the picture...

“It is quite subtle, but ... I think it's clear to see what's going on here, don't you? This is a picture of a woman who is very much in love with Seina.” Gyokuren's power to read the picture was at an ESP level.

“I know you know that face she is making, Kiriko-sama.”

“Well... Before ... When I was opposed to Seina coming to GP, she told me what would happen if Seina returned here.”

“Oh, what do you mean Kiriko?” Kyoko finally chimed in.

“Uhm... I'd rather we talk about that alone.”

“This is a welcome party for you, none of us really mind ... Please tell us.”

“Does she really even need to ... Obviously he would have had to live in Masaki village once he graduated from junior high school or high school. He couldn't keep living with you without ruining you financially, and that means he would be dependent on Tsukiko-san.” Amane deduced.

“And if Seina and Kiriko's mother were going to have lived together, what do you think would have happened?” Gyokuren teased.

“Auntie, I'm sure Gyokuren is just joking ...”

“Why do you say that? I see nothing bad about that. Tsukiko-san would be a good match for him, I have no objections. Of course ... ... all you other girls would also be great too.”

“Oh...” The women all blushed.

“Well, do you have any other questions?”

“Uhm! Hmmmm, I don't know...”

The party continued late into the night as the girls continued looking over the photographs.

Chapter Eight: To the Masaki House

“... Miah, Miah.” Early in the morning, Fuku awoke, she went to wake her husband Seina. When she got to his room a breeze blowing from the window rocked the yarn-ball at the end of the fluorescent light over where Seina was sleeping.

“..... Miah!” Fuku jumped at it instinctively. The cat in her was tempted.

Boom Crash!! The weight of Fuku broke the light off the ceiling and it fell onto Seina's face.

“Mya! ... ... Miah?” Fuku said.

“... Good morning, Fuku.” Seina said gently.

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Seina went downstairs and peeked into the living room. The fallout from the party last night had been cleaned up. He headed to the kitchen and found a box lunch there with a note.

“We made breakfast for you -Kiriko.”

“I am hungry, should I eat it now?”

“Mya!”

Seina took out the green tea pot from the refrigerator and poured a cup. “Oh, this is very tasty,” he murmured while stroking Fuku.

“When I finish eating, I'm going to Tenchi-senpai's place. What are you going to do Fuku? Will you come with everyone else later or do you want to go with me?”

“Miah, Mia!” Fuku clung to Seina.

“Alright, then let's go together.”

“Mia!”

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Seina went to the back warehouse and met again with the old “Kai Special”. He straddled the bike and put Fuku in the front basket.

“Well, let's go.”

“Mia!”

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He made his way up the slope with no difficulty. “Oh, wow! Bio-Enhancement is really amazing. Hey, Tenchi's house is over there, let's go!”

“Miah!! Mia! Mia!”

“Let's see how fast we can get there.” Seina pedaled vigorously. “Haha! Ahahahaha!” He lightly peddled and it felt more like he was riding in a car than on a bicycle. On Earth Seina was definitely a superman far stronger than a top athlete.

“I've changed ... That's it ... That's why I cannot return to the Earth ... I’m an alien now, ahahahaha ~ ~!” A tight curve appeared in front of him. He grabbed the handbrake, but it broke.

(Ahhh!?) Seina became a superman through Bio-Enhancement, and now he was flying through the air like one. “Aahhhhh~~~~~~~~~~~~~!”

“Mya ~~~~~~~~~~!!”

He flew through the air for about fifty meters with his bicycle, fortunately he landed in some soft soil and was uninjured.

“…Are you okay?” He heard a nostalgic voice that he could never forget.

“Tenchi-senpai!”

Tenchi Masaki was staring down at Seina with a nostalgic look as Seina lifted his face from the dirt. And beside him was Ryo-Ohki who was staring at Seina surprised.

“Mia!” Fuku said to Ryo-Ohki. They had met each other as ships, but this was the first time between the ship’s brains. Besides, Ryo-Ohki left in a hurry last time, so they didn't really get to talk.

“Mia! Mia!” Fuku started running towards Ryo-Ohki with tears in her eyes.

“Miya!” Ryo-Ohki like a sister, greeted Fuku and firmly hugged her.

Seina and Tenchi looked at each other and smiled.

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“Oh, good morning.” Kyoko who was sweeping in the garden smiled as the girls got up and came into the kitchen.

“Thanks for the lovely party last night.”

“Has anyone seen Seina-chan?”

“Oh, Kiriko-oneechan! Onii-chan left a letter saying he was going to Tenchi's place.” Yoshiko called to Kiriko. “He must have taken Fuku-chan, I've been looking around here for her, but I don't see her.”

“Fuku probably wanted to see her sister.”

“Oh ... ok, then I guess it can't be helped.”

“Ms. Neiju, once you eat breakfast, let me know so we can head out towards the Masaki family home ...”

“Why are you in such a hurry, don't you want to eat breakfast?”

“Uhm, well ...”

It was less than five hours since the banquet had finished. The girls all had heartburn and hangovers.

“Haha, why don't you have some tea to wake up, I'll see if I can get my husband to take you in the van.” Kyoko said with a laugh.

“But we can walk ...”

“Well, think of it as a sightseeing tour. There were a lot of rumors spreading about you girls yesterday. We got plenty of inquiries at the shop, too. Well, all publicity for the store is welcome but I'm not so sure you want that...”

“No, we don't ... Thank you for thinking about that...”

“Neiju, are you going too? I'll miss you.”

“I'll be back later today, but Fuku-chan might stay over there ... She wants to see her older sister ...”

“Ok, I'll wait for you to come home.” Yoshiko said smiling.

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In the fields of the Masaki family home, Tenchi and Seina were filling the holes in the field and were doing leveling work. Ryo-Ohki and Fuku were watching the situation.

“You know you don't have to help me.”

“I'm sorry, I made a big hole in your field ... But it's still good to see you after such a long time Tenchi-senpai.”

“I'm just glad you're alright. I was surprised when I heard from Airi that you joined the GP. It’s forbidden to take an Earthling like you into space, so most of all, I was surprised it even happened in the first place.”

“I was surprised to wake up on a spaceship and even more surprised when I arrived at the Academy and Kiriko was there.”

“But not about the Space Pirates on the way?”

“... Well, I was surprised a bit ... But I was more worried about how badly Onnainin was panicking, I feel sorry for him. So... Is the president of the GP really your grandmother?”

“That's right.”

“Is that so .... I've gotten used to it by now, but in the beginning it was strange that she was young, and yet really your grandmother.”

“She gets angry when I say grandmother... I hear Airi has gotten you involved in quite a few predicaments.”

“Well, yes ... Those I have not gotten used to ... But there isn't much I can do about that because of her position.”

“I heard you also met with Seto.”

“Yes, I also met the Juraian Emperor and Ms. Minaho and Kanemitsu. I've met lots of people ... Oh, yeah! And Tenchi's older sister! I met Tennyo, I thought she was Aunt Kiyone at first ... ... I thought she was alive ... I actually I cried a little.”

“Ha ha, it's ok... Me too.” Tenchi also smiled shyly. “She appeared dressed just like my mother, it was a pretty frightening surprise...”

“I'm sure she had a good reason for doing that ...”

“Yeah, but Airi, good grief, that woman ...”

“She's a piece of work, isn't she?”

“Yeah” They looked at each other and laughed sadly.

Ryo-Ohki wanted to join in, she pulled the hem of Seina’s clothes while Fuku was on her head.

“Mia!”

“Ryo-Ohki-chan, thank you for helping me this afternoon.”

“Miya!”

It was a short conversation, but Ryo-Ohki was happy and ran off toward the ridge.

“So, tell me all about what happened ...” Tenchi placed his hoe on the ground and sat down beside it and beckoned Seina to sit also. Seina nodded and sat next to him.

“I heard you got a GP brochure, which is what triggered you to go into space. But why where you given one in the first place?”

“In front of your house my bicycle's tire punctured and I tried to draw water from the pond to check the hole in the tube. Suddenly I lost conscience from the shock of a tremendous impact ...”

“Wow ...Just like Mihoshi. I thought that Amane was better than that ... Or maybe it's just common for people to do that without a guidance beacon?”

“I thought that Amane was a friend of yours. She gave me a pamphlet to join the GP, I thought it was a promo ad. Well, I took it home and filled it in and well ...”

“Next thing we knew, you were in space ...”

“That's right.”

“Ha ... Well, there used to be another gate in another place for ships and people from outer space, but Washu had recently changed its location to the pond for added secrecy and so larger ships could be docked...”

“So, if she hadn't done that, I guess I never would've gone into outer space ... It is strange to think of it that way, I guess it was lucky for me.”

“Yeah, but you were chased by a great number of Space Pirates, and now you’re in way more danger on a regular basis ...”

“Yeah, that's what Kiriko was worried about when I first came to the Academy, but I don't regret it.”

“... Well ... I guess that's good.” Tenchi nodded as if he was relieved. No matter how many people told him, he wanted to confirm Seina's decision directly.

“By the way, when did you find out you were an alien? I heard that they tell their kids when they become adults, but you weren't that old yet, were you?”

“In my case it was irregular ... Well, that is to say ... It started when I accidentally woke up Ryoko, and then everyone sort of gathered here and well here we are now ... It's a long story ... But I'll tell it to you eventually...”

“... I understand ... But I guess you're struggling too.”

“No, at least not like you.” Seina heard in his ear, he turned sideways there was Washu’s face right beside him.

“What?! Aaaahhh!?”

“Hello, it's me! Washu-chan ~” Washu was quite satisfied with Seina's shocked reaction.

“Myamyamyamiaaaaaaaaaaaaa ~ ~!”

“Miah!”

Fuku was amazed to see her mother, Washu. She ran at her and was picked up by Washu.

× × ×

“Myan Myan Miah!”

“Uhuhuhu ... Is that so...” Washu gazed at the jewel on Fuku's forehead and was interacting with Fuku. They were talking to each other and Washu was taking notes. There must have been some kind of communication going on, but Seina couldn't understand how.

“Hmm! That's quite the interesting way of raising her. It's really very interesting.”

“I'm not doing something wrong am I? There may have been a lot of incompetence with raising her at first, and I worry I may have messed her up...”

“Well, her degree of growth is quite biased, but she needs a bias like that to be compatible with her husband Seina, otherwise she wouldn't perform as well as needed.”

“Huh ... Biased?”

“Her spiritual growth is happening abnormally fast, that's what I mean by biased. Thanks to you Seina, she has gotten a lot of experience in a very little time. Of course, there has also been an impact on her emotional development, but her spirit is healthy. It's probably because I used a good Astral Core to make her fit with you.”

“Astral core?”

“How do I put this... a soul?”

“You put someone’s soul in there?” Seina suddenly became uneasy. And he remembered Fuku's cold eyes upon seeing the rescue victim.

“I can't say who it was, at least not right now, but she strongly wanted to be with you Seina ... So, I fulfilled her wish.”

“With me, but who the hell would want that ...?”

“It was enough for them to extinguish their own life, to put it gently.”

“.....” He had various concerns about the ship but building the ship using someone’s astral was quite a shock. Washu continued talking.

“There is no need to worry, that person was not sacrificed for you Seina, and their death was already near. They decided to make the choice to become closer to you Seina. Fuku doesn't have the original's memories or personality, but I think that you should still take care of their reincarnation. “

“..... Yes, I see, but there's something I've been a little worried about. There was an incident on our way here, and Fuku's eyes looked completely different persons ...”

“Her eyes?”

“They seemed surprisingly cold ... as though her personality was replaced by someone else's, and the atmosphere around her changed ...” Seina shivered remembering it. It left such an intense impression.

“Well, there might be something like that, I know about the case from your report. She was probably trying to defend you Seina, because she recognized it as an enemy to you. That's probably the reason for those eyes.”

“Because it was my enemy?”

“Don't worry, as long as she doesn't turn those eyes towards you and those around you, you should be fine, but I'll tell you more about this whole thing when the right time comes.”

“I understand.”

“Miao ... ... Miu, Miu.”

“What is it Ryo-Ohki?” Washu gazed at Ryo-Ohki who was in the form humanoid girl, she wanted to play with Fuku. Washu let Fuku go.

“That reminds me, Fuku is still an animal. Will she ever become a humanoid like Ryo-Ohki-chan?”

“Oh, haven't you seen her outside of her human figure?”

“Huh...?”

Washu got in front of Ryo-Ohki. She clapped in front of Ryo-Ohki who turned back into a cabbit.

“Miaaah.” Surprised Ryo-Ohki rolled down the hill.

“Mia!” Fuku thought it was a game and chased after the rolling Ryo-Ohki.

“... She transformed!? ... Oh... That's the one that Sasami-chan always has with her ...”

“MIAH!” Ryo-Ohki came rushing toward Seina with terrible momentum for some reason.

“Are you mad at me? Why? ... Waaaa!”

Ryo-Ohki kicked off Seina to use him like a wall and jumped into Washu with a huge burst of force.

“Aaaaaah!

Washu fell down on the ground and Ryo-Ohki started tickling her weak points. Fuku followed and joined in. Like Ryo-Ohki, Seina was used as a steppingstone by Fuku. They started tickling Washu together.

”Mia! Mia!”

“Mia, Miha, Miya!”

“I'm sorry I'm sorry! I'm sorry I'm sorry, no not there! I am sorry, forgive me ~ ~ ~” Washu cried out as she begged them to stop.

“Ryo-Ohki, Fuku-chan that's enough.”

“Miah!” Ryo-Ohki and Fuku stopped tickling when Tenchi said so and together they jumped up into a basket full of carrots.

“Why were they tickling you?”

“You should be careful ... That is a powerful technique when applied to certain key points.” Washu raised her upper body in a daze as she caught her breath.

“Uhm.... I don't mean to interrupt you catching your breath... But ... If Ryo-Ohki-chan can become a humanoid, can Fuku also be a humanoid?

”She can, but it depends on how you raise her.”

“H.... how I raise her?” Seina was worried about how his luck would affect that.

“If you nurture her normally, she should be able to...”

“Haha, ok then I will try hard to do that.”

“Well... But... If you do it the wrong way, she will turn out like my other daughter, so be careful.”

“Offffffft!” Tenchi, who understood the meaning of Washu's words nearly fell over laughing.

“Oh, there's another one?”

“Seina, it's a joke... you and Fuku are fine.” Tenchi said to Seina who seemed uneasy.

“... I'm confused...”

“Tenchi-oniichan.” Sasami came over with a big basket. “Oh! Seina is also here! And Fuku-chan is with you.” Sasami wasn't short of breath, even though she ran a long distance with considerable speed.

“Mia!” After eating some carrots, Ryo-Ohki came running towards Sasami with Fuku.

“Wow, you're so cute ... You look just like Ryo-chan when she was younger... I brought you all a morning snack, there are lots of things to eat, please enjoy them everyone.”

Sasami opened the big basket and got out the food. Ryo-Ohki and Fuku ran to the edge of the basket and looked inside.

“Here, have a carrot sandwich.” Sasami took out a sandwich from the basket. Ryo-Ohki and Fuku's eyes shone. The scent made them hungry. Sasami gave it to them.

“So, is it delicious?”

“Miao, Miao ~ ~”

“Everyone please dig in, I brought both milk and black tea.”

× × ×

“Oh! Sasami, I forgot to say it yesterday since I was busy, but I met Mahma when I was on Jurai. She was very worried about you. She wanted me to tell her about you.”

“Yes, I know.” Sasami stood up and bowed deeply to Seina. “Seina, thank you so much for doing that.”

“Mahma seemed to be very worried about you. She is a really kind person and treated me very well.” Seina said.

“... Yeah ... I'm glad you met her. She's a wonderful person, isn't she?”

“Yes, but she is very worried about you, she asked me to tell her all about you ...”

“Well, for now we have to keep far apart. We can't talk easily, so it can't be helped.”

“Well, yes, but when I told her about you, she seemed relieved ...”

“Thank you Seina, for speaking to her for me. Thank you.”

“I hope you get to see her again soon.”

“Yes, me too.” Sasami gladly said with a smile.

× × ×

A small truck stopped in front of them, Noike came out from the inside.

“Oh Washu, when did you get here?” Noike rushed over to Washu and saluted like a soldier. “Ms. Washu, I heard from Kiriko a little while ago, they’re all on their way here.”

“OK, I understand.”

“Noike! Look Seina brought Ryo-chan's younger sister!” Sasami ran to Noike holding Ryo-Ohki and Fuku.

“Nice to meet you Fuku-chan.” Noike gently stroked Fuku's head and turned to Seina.

“Hello, Seina, I'm glad to see you’re doing alright.” Noike did the GP salute.

× × ×

“By the way, I wanted to ask you, since you put in your resignation, have things on Melmas settled?” While riding in the van, Kiriko spoke softly to Neiju who was sitting next to her.

“Seto has already done her best to deal with it, now it's just a wait and see situation.”

“Without a shrine maiden on Melmas will things be okay? Is it okay for you to be out and about like this?”

“Don't take this the wrong way, but that's not my responsibility anymore.”

“What does that mean?”

“It is pointless, even if I cared about Melmas right now, it's pointless... We can't tell if anything is going to happen just yet ... But if it does, what's the big deal? That's just the price they gotta pay right?”

”Uhm... But... Uh... I understand.” Kiriko gave up, realizing that further questions were pointless. Information was not a thing always given upon asking. Especially with this kind of political thing which was hard to judge. Kiriko decided not to worry about it.

*** * * Translators’ note: Eventually she was replaced with Ciel who we never really get any info on. That’s her on the left. * * ***

“It's a stunning carrot field, isn't it?” Hokuto said with a sigh. “There're so many of them, but as far as I know only a small amount of them go to our store, but they sell really well...”

“Are they really that good?”

“Yes, they’re sweet and tasty. Some of our customers are hardcore fans of the carrots. They sell out almost as soon as we get them in stock, yet we can only get them to give us a small amount ...” Hokuto stared at the carrots in the field a little upset.

“I wonder where all those other carrots go ... I don't think there shipping them anywhere, when I ask Tenchi he only says they have a big eater at home...”

“Well, that's not wrong ...”

Tenchi was embarrassed to admit that Ryo-Ohki alone ate up all those carrots.

“Oh look, there's Noike ... and Tenchi, Seina's there too!” Hokuto saw Noike and Tenchi in the field and stopped the van.

× × ×

Tenchi was loading bushels of carrots on the truck. He was also loading up the agricultural equipment alongside it. A little ways away from there, the others were chatting with Seina.

“... Noike, aren't you Seto's adopted daughter? I'm indebted to Seto.”

“Aahaha, no doubt that's her doing... has she tried to hook you up with anyone yet?”

“Ha... Well.”

Noike and Sasami smiled wryly. Those who knew Seto always made the same face.

Seina noticed the van stop.

“Thank you, Uncle. You can leave us here. Don't worry!” Kiriko said to Hokuto as she got out of the van.

“Oh Kiriko, why don't you go wait in the house, there's no need for you to be out here.” Noike said after she ran to Kiriko.

“There's no need to wait around! Let's go for a ride! Everybody back on board. Hurry up! Actually... Take it slow and watch out for Seina...” Washu said getting on the bus.

“Well then, I guess we're leaving...”

They waved to them as the van drove away.

“Noike, we should hurry up and get this harvested don't you think?”

“Yes, I understand. Tenchi, would you like me to get Ayeka-san and Ryoko here to help us?”

“They're over at the shrine right ... Hmmm ... Let me do it! Seina, will you come with me? Maybe Grandpa can do a ceremony on you for your luck?”

“Hahaha ... Sure I'll go, I haven't seen Grandpa or the shrine in a while.”

“Well then, I'll take care of Fuku-chan while you go.” Sasami scooped up and hugged Ryo-Ohki and Fuku.

“Thank you Sasami chan ... Senpai, are you going to bike there with me? It's an awful long walk.”

“Well ... I think I can manage it...” Tenchi tilted his head with his arms folded. Seina had seen that gesture a few times before in the past.

“Oh…”

“Well then shall we race, I'm pretty confident I can make it there first.” Tenchi challenged, Seina accepted it with a smile.

Chapter Nine: Funaho

Seina was riding his bike, the Kai special, on a mountain path at superhuman speeds. However...

“... How is Senpai doing that ... Magic?” Behind Seina, Tenchi was running along the mountain path with great speed. Whenever his path was blocked by a tree, he would just jump through it like a ninja.

“Has he been Bio-Enhanced? Shit he's going to beat me there.” Seina sped up.

Tenchi gradually caught up to him when, “Seina look out ahead!”

“What?!” Seina turned and saw the forest in front of him it was a familiar patch of forest from when he was a child. He tried to brake but his brakes broke again.

“Watch out!” Tenchi tried to grab the Kai special to stop it, but it broke off in his hand and Seina went flying off the seat and ended up rolling through the forest.

“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!” He rolled right through it and into the pond where the tree Funaho was...

“Seina!” Tenchi stopped himself right where the lake began and stared at Seina.

“Gah!” Seina said as he raised his head out of the water.

“I see you’re the same as ever.”

“Eh!?” In front of Seina was Katsuhito.

× × ×

“Thank you for the ride, Uncle.”

“Feel free to call me when you need a ride back.”

“Ok.” Kiriko and the others waved goodbye to Hokuto as his van left to go back the way it came.

“Well, then everyone follow me.” Washu greeted them and began leading the way while holding a flagged banner that said “Guinea Pig Line” on it, as if she was a tour guide. They followed Washu and passed through a transfer gate into her laboratory.

“Hmm, I expected ... More ... I was imagining a place full of suspicious machinery and weird creatures.”

They came out into an area like a beautiful sunshine filled gymnasium.

“Ahhh....! Don't give her any ideas.” Kiriko put a finger to Amane's mouth.

“If you want some place like that, I have plenty of them.”

“No, this is fine.” Kiriko said desperate to keep Amane's mouth shut and move on with things. “Can we just get this done?”

“Of course, I want to finish by noon myself ... Well then ... Take off all your clothes and accessories.”

Kiriko, Amane and others began to take off their clothes.

Washu looked around the ladies who took off their clothes and stopped at Kiriko. “Well then, let's start with you Kiriko.”

“Yes!” Kiriko reflexively stood at attention. Washu went around Kiriko and began to look at her body with enthusiasm.

“Hmm ... There are no abnormalities in your body. Bio-Enhancement level is 8. Hmm, but you recently suffered great damage to both arms. I just need to do a little adjustment.”

There was nothing like a sensor in the vicinity, Washu was just observing all of this with her naked eyes. Kiriko's Bio-Enhancement level was top secret. She was astonished that Washu could tell that with just her eyes. Washu had even noticed the damage both arms received during the battle with Tarrant.

“Don't worry you're one of Tenchi's relatives, I won't bite.” Washu lightly tapped Kiriko's ass and started walking towards Amane.

“Next is Amane Kaunaq ... Mr. Kaunaq's granddaughter.”

“Do you know my grandfather?”

“He runs a clothing company now, but I used to be his teacher, so I know a lot about him.”

“I see... I never knew that ...”

“Uhuhuhu, he used to be quite the voyeur. Is he still that way?

“Uhm...” Amane’s grandfather was pretty obsessed with keeping an eye on the family, and always monitored them, they forced him to stop monitoring Amane. Her mother was still regularly monitored, but they were used to it.

“Haha, the same as ever, anyways, your body is fine, Bio-Enhancement level 4 ..... and looking quite nice.”

“I do my best to take care of it.”

“Ha ha ha, ok then, onto the granddaughter of commander Balta, Ryoko Balta...”

“Yes, nice to meet you Washu-sama ...”

“Hmm I see, so that name is taken from my daughter Ryoko's name ... Hmm ... Bio-Enhancement level is 2 ... But you have a special transformation ability.”

“Ha ha, yes.”

“Next is the Shrine Maiden of Melmas, Neiju Na Melmas. No Bio-Enhancement, an age fixed body ... But the age fixing has recently been lifted.”

“Has Seto told you anything about the political situation on Melmas calming down?” As expected, Neiju was less tense than the others.

“No, but if you have a problem, I can always build a personal data construct to take your place over there.”

“Okay, I'll keep that in mind, thank you.”

“Next is Hakuren. Bio-Enhancement level 6 ... With thought acceleration specialization.” As Washu stepped around Hakuren’s body she entered Kiriko's blind spot. “You four you sure are far from home, aren't you?”

“!?” As expected, Hakuren kept quiet and feigned ignorance, but her fists were firmly clenched.

“I do understand. Being royalty is a pain. I don't know why you're here, but it seems interesting. So, feel free to tell me about it anytime you want.”

“…Yes.” Hakuren said.

“Well, next is Karen ... Bio-Enhancement level 5. Your body has been ideally trained. But, uhuhu, I sense a bit of spiritual fatigue.

Washu next pointed to Gyokuren with her thumb. Gyokuren bowed elegantly in response.

“Nice to meet you Washu, I am Gyokuren.”

“Hmm... Despite your other side, you have a nice appearance ... And I bet you're used to using that as a weapon. Bio-Enhancement level is 6.” Washu looked into Gyokuren's eyes. “Is that mental stability due to the Seina’s presence?”

“…Yes.”

“Hmm, it's quite interesting.” Washu backed away a bit from Gyokuren. Just out of her danger zone.

“Well then, that's interesting ... Is that everyone?”

“Washu, next to you... Suiren.” Hakuren pointed and Washu turned.

“Oh! I didn't sense you. Hmm you also have a biased probability, and your Bio-Enhancement level is 10.”

“Ten!?” To this, Hakuren and the others couldn't hide their surprise. A Bio-Enhancement level that high distorted the body and spirit and could destroy a person.

“Bio-Enhancement may be the cause of her thin presence. She hasn't always been like this has she? Well ... I'll decide whether to adjust or detune her enhancement level after I do a detailed investigation ... I won't accept any objections. It needs to be done. “Washu stared at Suiren. Suiren nodded to give consent.

“Well then ... get ready!” At Washu’s signal an object made of black slime appeared.

“Wow, Ms. Washu ... What is that?”

“This is my Precision Scanning Monster “Mr. Slimy Number 3” ♡”

“Monster!? Watch out!” Kiriko screamed.

Mr. Slimy number three attacked Kiriko who tried to run away and swallowed her.

× × ×

“... Oh! It’s been a long time.” Seina stayed in the pond where he landed but stood up and bowed to Katsuhito with a smile.

“Well, it seems like you’re just as unlucky as ever even after going into space uhuhuhu!”

“... Oh ... Who is that ...? What is that?” Seina felt like he was being called by someone for a moment, he looked around.

“What's wrong?”

“Oh, uhm ... Just now it seems like someone called me ...”

“Are you all right?” Tenchi came over and looked at him anxiously.

“Uhm ... Do you hear that?” Seina looked around and searched for source of the voice only he heard.

“There is no one here but me and Tenchi.”

“I heard another person ... Or something, a voice ...”

“Oh, do you? I wonder if he's hearing that ...” Katsuhito slowly pointed behind Seina. The giant tree Funaho was behind him.

“The shrine's tree? ... Oh!” Seina had seen something very similar to this tree several times. “... That's right, why didn't I notice it sooner?”

Light was emitted from the tree, and it hit Seina's forehead. Its voice sounded almost like Fuku’s, and the light tickled.

“Oh, it's a royal tree! Okay! Wait ... so the big tree was always a royal tree!?”

“Yes, it's my first-generation Tree, Funaho ... now that you know, you can properly become friends with it.”

“Eh?”

“Funaho, often wanted to talk to you when you were playing here, it was sad that it couldn't comfort you when you'd get hurt and cry in public, it still kept an eye on you.”

“Really, how?”

“The trees in this village are the eyes and ears of Funaho, they know everything about this village, so it saw and wanted to comfort you, but couldn't.”

Seina had often felt a presence watching over him in the village but had never understood what it was. “... Hmm, so that presence I always felt ... was that you? ...Thank you ... Thank you, Funaho. I'm doing fine.” Seina said and a flurry of joyous light began coming out of the tree.

As Seina looked up to watch it he saw something come out of the sky and land on him.

“Hey Tenchi, Tenchi!” Ryoko who came down from the sky stepped on his Seina's head pushing him back into the water.

“That's not a rock Ryoko!”

“Huh?” Ryoko saw Tenchi glaring at her angrily and looked down.

“… Oh!” Ryoko quickly got off of Seina's head. “Oh, I'm sorry Seina, I didn't see you. I thought you were a rock, Ahahahaha!”

“Seina, this is Ryoko ... Washu's other daughter.” Tenchi whispered to Seina softly.

“What?!”

“Washu-chan said that if you didn't treat Fuku right she would turn out this way ...”

“That woman is not my mother!” Ryoko cried, and then she heard Ayeka's voice come from far away.

“Ryoko-san, Ryoko-san?”

“Ah!” Ryoko quickly disappeared as an angry Ayeka came in to take her place.

“Ryoko-san, it's your turn to do the cleaning! Where are you? Oh Tenchi, have you seen Ryoko ...” Then Ayeka noticed Seina near Tenchi.

“... Oh, is that.... Seina? I was looking forward to seeing you when I heard that you came home. ... Why are you standing in the pond?”

“Oh, oops I forgot, I fell in.” Seina hurried to get out of the pond. To be honest, it was hot and he was sweating from bicycling so fast in the summer heat, and the cold water felt nice which was half of why he forgot.

“Oh no! Have you seen Ryoko?”

”Uhm well ... Eeh em.”

Katsuhito cleared his throat. During the conversation with Seina, Ryoko had been making stupid poses behind Ayeka.

“Hmm?”

But Ayeka was used to this situation and from how Katsuhito and Tenchi were acting she realized this and turned to throw a broom at Ryoko like a spear.

“Ack!” The broom hit Ryoko in the face and she fell back against a rock.

“Nice shot.” Katsuhito applauded Ayeka's skill.

× × ×

“Grrrrrr... ....”

“Grrrrrrrrrrr...”

The confrontation between Ryoko and Ayeka had led them into a situation where Ryoko was on top of the demon's cave, in which she had once been sealed, with Ayeka below it.

“Should we intervene?”

“That's not a good idea, it's dangerous to get in between them.”

“Well, while there busy with that ... Let me tell you a story.” Katsuhito pointed to the demon's cave. “Do you know the legend of the samurai that sealed the evil demon in this cave?”

“Yes ... You've told me many times.”

“Actually, the young man who sealed that demon was me, and that's the demon that was sealed.” Katsuhito pointed to Ryoko who raised her hand.

“Hi!”

“Ha, Ryoko ... A demon?”

However, he thought about it and what he had heard in space and how he had seen Ryo-Ohki glow bright red ... It made sense. The horn-shaped protrusion on the hull of Ryo-Ohki was reminiscent of a demon's horns. If people on the Earth saw that they would definitely call it a demon. Or maybe a dragon.

“... Hmmm, I guess I see it.”

“Pfttt!” Ayeka giggled and got distracted from the fight.

“Tenchi went and woke her up after 700 years a few years ago ...”

“... A few years ... Wait ... Senpai did you cause the gas explosion at the high school...?”

“That was me ♡!” Ryoko said with a smile.

“Wait ... And what about Tenchi-senpai's home in Kurashiki which burned down ...”

“Yeah, that too ... But Ayeka was the one who destroyed the Seto Bridge.”

“I did not! The Seto Bridge was all your doing Ryoko!”

“... I wouldn't have had to move Tenchi's house if you hadn't tried to blow it up!”

“Well, that is true ... But the Seto Bridge is absolutely Ryoko's fault!” Ayeka's face was bright red. “...But I wouldn't have attacked in the first place if you hadn't attacked Jurai!”

Ryoko and Ayeka went back into fighting mode and started bickering.

“Tenchi, it's time to head back to the house.” It was Noike coming up from the stairs that saved Seina and Tenchi from that awkward fight.

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Chapter Ten: Masaki Family Disturbance

*** * * Translators' note: AT THIS POINT THE EDGE OF THESE PAST FEW BOOKS IS KILLING ME... IT'S LIKE KAJISHIMA IS JUST TRYING TO SEE HOW MUCH SHIT HE CAN GET AWAY WITH I SWEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAR. * * ***

Ignoring the battle between Ryoko and Ayeka, Tenchi headed for the stairs leading to the Masaki family home. Katsuhito joined them just before they descended.

"If you're going to stay on the planet for a while, please tell the other girls to come to see me for a bad luck exorcism, ha ha ha." He laughed while seeing off Seina.

"... What about me?"

"Your troubles are hardcore, they're made from a special alloy, it's just a waste ..."

"Severe ... Oh, speaking of hardcore trouble, Grandpa ... Airi, Airi!"

"What about her?"

"What's wrong with her!? Please do something! Airi is your wife grandfather! How should I put this ...? I have ... Uhm ... Various complaints." It was embarrassing to have to tell him this.

"It's impossible."

"What! How can you say that?"

"She's not exactly stoppable once she puts her mind to something." He laughed, but he could understand Seina's feelings.

"Can you at least try to step on the brakes a bit ... Maybe slow her down ...?"

"Okay! Maybe I'll settle down with her and help her raise the baby once she's done with you."

"....." Seina's froze at that horrible thought.

"How can you say that so casually?! She's your wife!"

Katsuhito took off his glasses with a huge smile and then ...

"Eh……?" In front of Seina, he turned into the young figure of Yosho.

"It's been 700 years since I met Airi. Even though we were apart for a while, we've been back together for what ... 550 years now ... What do you think happens to a couple after 550 years? Relationships change. We have to make sure we don't get bored. Our relationship isn't like that of a brother and sister, it's a relationship of higher magnitude than that. So, no matter who she's with to keep her entertained it doesn't bother me. On the other hand, she doesn't mind me having a side girlfriend of my own. She knows that no matter what piques my interest at the moment I will come back to her after a while, and of course we have different niche preferences

... She's a philosopher after all ... They are by nature sexually devious. I think it's rather cute, don't you?”

“... .... No! She's terrifying.”

“Of course, I don't encourage her to go off and have children with other people. But I'm not about to stop her from getting what she wants in life.”

“Uhm ... So, in other words, she's doing all this with your support.”

“Yep, that's right.” Seina was unable to say anything to that, he just cried just silent tears.

“I see ... So, you can't do anything ...”

“Yes, it's impossible.”

Tenchi and Noike were watching the exchange with Seina and Yosho from a distance. The place where Seina was talking to Yosho turned into a world where it was completely white and silent, time stopped when suddenly...

Gon! A bucket flew in from above hit and Seina square in the head. Time resumed.

“Aah, Seina!” Seina fell down the stairs. Tenchi and Noike hurried down the stairs and ran over to him.

Yosho tuned back into Katsuhito and looked to see where the bucket had come from. Ayeka and Ryoko stood there with an awkward look.

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At that time, at Washu's laboratory, Kiriko lumped herself on top of a cushion-shaped “Mr. Slimy #3”.

“Gaaaa! Unnnn ...” she felt a vortex of complex pleasure and disgust. Kiriko was too exhausted to attack Washu who was laughing and smiling.

”Thanks for your hard work ... And I mean hard ... Work! No, but seriously, I got some good data ... Yay!” Washu did a little dance.

“Now that you’re all sticky from the gel from Mr. Slimy, what do you want me to do about it? ... (1) Have it licked off by “Mr. Probey No. 1. (2) Wiped off with “Mr. Gropey No. 5. (3) .....”

“(3) I’ll just take a bath, thank you!”

“What? (3) is being vacuumed by Mr. Sucky No. 4 ...”

“(3) I’ll just take a bath, thank you!” Kiriko said sitting up as much as she could, and all the girls glared at Washu. Truly Washu felt goosebumps on her back.

“Oh oh ok, OK, OK! (3) Take a bath it is, OK! Alright everyone, let me guide you to the bath!”

“Eh! Kya! Ayaaaaaaaa!” Kiriko who tried to hit Washu was thrown into a transfer gate still on top of Mr. Slimy.

*** * * Translators’ note: To clarify something, often the text refers to groups of people in the singular. It will say Kiriko, but it means all of Kiriko's group ... Sometimes it’s the Amanes ... And Hakurens ... So, this confused me, it seems that it happened to all of them, but it only said Kiriko.**

What is interesting here is that Ringo is not measured or mentioned, but she is there in the picture, and Neiju is mentioned and inspected, but she doesn't seem to be in the picture.

Kajishima actually states at the end that just like with GXP 15 and 16, he saved, and it got corrupted ... Man he needs to use a better program or computer ... Really ... And learn to make multiple saves...

So, I think this is legit an oversight from him having to redo the story after writing it once over... he says this version came out better though according to him... * * *

*** * * Editors’ note: I’ve tried to straighten some of that out where it was obvious, but it isn’t always possible. * * ***

“I'm truly sorry.” Ayeka was truly apologetic. Ryoko was embarrassed and looked away as she floated beside Ayeka.

“It's okay, this is normal for me.”

“Please apologize Ryoko!”

“Uhm... my bad... but you have some really bad luck, I didn't even aim at you with that bucket. I just flung it up into the air.”

“Hahaha, yeah, that sounds about right for my luck...”

“Seina, how about you take a hot bath to make it hurt less?” Noike seemed to hesitate to say so. Seina's clothes and body were so dirty due to the various troubles he had encountered so far in the day.

“Well, ok, but...”

“I wouldn't mind a nice bath... how about we go together?” Tenchi said.

“I'll clean your clothes for you so they will be nice and dry by the time you get out.”

“Yes, come on! Don't be shy. Let's go!” Suddenly Ryoko hugged Seina and lifted him up in the air towards the bath.

“What do you think you're doing?” Tenchi chased after her with a wry smile as Seina screamed about being lifted into the air.

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“Wow ... Somehow I managed to defend my pants successfully...”

In the changing room, Seina had been undressed by Ryoko and she was about to pull down his pants when Tenchi came just in time to rescue him. Instead Noike took them off and carried them away to be cleaned.

“But... I wanted to keep my pants and underwear on...”

“Noike is a demon with housework, it's better to just let her do her thing.” Tenchi said with a distant eye. He also felt the same about his own pants.

“Ha ... ... Even so, this is a great bath, when did you guys build it?”

The large floating public bath of Masaki family had a large bathtub in the lower layer and a smaller bathtub slightly higher. For the most part only the men used the small bathtub.

”A while ago, you just can't see it from the outside.”

“Oh ... ... that makes sense, but why is this tub so much smaller...”

“Well, I'm the only man in the house.”

“... Oh right, I wanted to ask you about this earlier, but did Uncle move back to Kurashiki?”

“Yeah, he married his office worker, they live in an apartment in Kurashiki.”

“And Grandpa is living in the shrine's office ...”

“Yeah”

“... So... Tenchi-senpai, you're here alone... There're no other men here?”

“Well, yes ...”

“Hmmmm, oh really ...?”

“Yeah, well, I heard from Airi that you're living with Kiriko? And lots of other girls too, right?” Tenchi countered.

“Oh really, is that what she said...?”

“Isn't it a pain in the ass?”

“… Yes.”

“I understand all too well.”

“Hey Seina, would you like me to help you get your back?”

“Waaaa!” Ryoko materialized next to Seina like a ghost. Seina fell over from fright into the water.

“Hahaha! You sure to fall into water a lot.”

“... Ryoko, don't sneak up on people like that.” Tenchi who was accustomed to it didn't move. Ryoko poked his legs which were sticking up in the air.

“But it's so fun.”

Tenchi told her something he knew would quiet her instantly. “... Recently, you're becoming more and more like Washu.”

“... Aaaah!”

“Now can you leave us alone for a while?”

“Fine!” Ryoko who was shocked reluctantly left. But a real crisis for Seina was brewing in the bath below.

× × ×

“Kyaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!” Kiriko was suddenly transferred to the large lower bathtub by Washu as if she were illegally dumped garbage. The rest of the girls followed her.

“Gyaaaaa!” Ryoko was jolted by the sudden feel of hot water. “Uuuuuuuuo! HOT!” She jumped out to shake it off.

“AAAh!” Most of the other girls went back in after adjusting to the temperature, but Kiriko who was on Mr. Slimy was bounced off the bottom of the bathtub and flew up to the small bath where Seina was.

“What, what's wrong ...?” Tenchi tried to look down to see what the trouble was, but remembered that the bottom was for women, and stopped moving. If he had, he would have

seen Kiriko, and might have caught her reflexively. But Kiriko, instead flew right past him and landed right on top of Seina.

“Seina, what are you doing here!? ..... Aaaaaah!”

Seina was awkwardly pressed against her. Tenchi looked away because he didn't wish to see his relative in such a state.

“Kyaaaaaaaaaaa!!” Kiriko picked up something and threw it at Tenchi reflexively. It hit him and he was knocked over face first into the tub.

“Tenchi .....?” Kiriko finally grasped the situation, and started to hurry to help him, but she noticed something uncomfortable beneath her butt.

“Ah ... ... ah ah ah ah! Nasty ah ah ah ah!” It was not certain at the time which part of Seina was touching Kiriko's butt... ...

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“... Seina, are you OK?” Tenchi's expression was looking anxious and complicated.

“Miya?” Ryo-Ohki came from behind and noticed the huge red mark on Tenchi's head and put her hand on it to measure the size of it.

“Ryo-Ohki ... That hurts.” Tenchi gently told Ryo-Ohki before checking on Seina again. She poked Seina's face with her forefoot.

“Hmm where am I? The last thing I remember I was in a garden sniffing flowers...” Fortunately Seina didn't realize that was actually Kiriko who had fallen on his head.

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However, Kiriko had returned to the bottom bathtub and seemed to be dying of embarrassment.

“Don't worry about it Kiriko.”

“..... I can never look Seina in the face ever again!”

“Oh, don't be like that, you were going to show it to him some day anyways.”

“Amaneeeeeeeeee~~!!” Amane pissed off Kiriko which got her out of her depressive slump.

”What it's not like it's my fault ...”

Ryoko came in from above. “I can't believe he said I was turning into Washu ...”

“Haha yeah, no doubt about it... Oh what's up with her ...” Ayeka noticed Ryoko Balta looking at Ryoko like she wanted to say something.

“……Hmm?” Ryoko looked towards Ryoko B who bowed deeply.

“Ryoko, I am Ryoko Balta, I used to be a part of the Da Ruma Guild before joining Seina's crew. My mother actually named me after you.”

“After me? ... Oh, I see your mother has good taste in names.” Ryoko's mood improved suddenly.

In the Masaki family, most of the people were from Jurai's bloodlines. Both Washu and Mihoshi were on the Academy’s’ side, that is, in the middle, but Ryoko was on the enemy side. So, it was rare she got any respect or admiration.

“It's an honor to meet you Ryoko. You're much admired among us pirates; we were all deeply impressed by what you did.”

“Ha ha ha! Hmm, what was that, could you say it louder? Are you listening, Ayeka? Ryoko respects and admires ME!” Ryoko was ecstatic.

“Well, considering what you did, it would make sense that the pirates would admire you ... but Ms. Balta....”

“Yes?”

“If you want to keep respecting Ryoko, then I feel bad for you because you're going to think less of her after being around her directly.”

“… What!” Ryoko got as mad as when she was told she resembled Washu!

“Once you get to know her, she's not that great.”

“What do you mean by that Ayeka?”

“Exactly what I said. It is better to see the stars from afar in the night sky.”

“I could say the same for you!”

“Of course, you would say that, but would the rest of the people here? I don't hear anyone making such statements.” Ayeka and Ryoko glared each other. However, contrary to their words, there was no atmosphere between them that seemed hostile. On the contrary it seemed like a friendly play fight between friends.

The relationship between Washu and Ryoko and Ayeka felt strange and peaceful. The identity of those gathered at the Masaki family home was complex. The Academy, Jurai, the Kuramitsu's, and space pirates. That was the makeup of the entire Galactic Federation itself. However, its political complexity wasn't seen here. Perhaps it was due to Tenchi Masaki’s presence.

(Hmm but we're almost the same.) Just like the Masaki family, Seina's crew consisted of people from the academy, Jurai, the Kuramitsu's, Space Pirates, and Melmas as well. They all gathered around Seina Yamada.

—— It would be amazing if the whole galaxy were like this.

Seto, Airi, Mikami, Mitoto and many others had noticed the vast variety of those around Seina and this warm atmosphere.

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“Seina, I've dried your clothes, I'm leaving them right here.” Noike called from the entrance to the upper bathroom.

“Oh, thank you!”

“It’s almost lunch-time, let's hurry.” Tenchi said as he headed for the washroom.

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“Please wait a little longer,” Sasami who peaked her head out from the curtain on the entrance to the kitchen said. To Tenchi who was in the living room, she quickly withdrew her face.

“Fuku-chan likes watching the dishes be made.”

Fuku was watching them cook. The combination of Sasami and Noike helping each other prepare the meal was amazing to watch. The two completely knew how the other cooked and would switch off with each other. It was similar to juggling, and it seemed like they made multiple dishes at the same time.

“It looks great……”

Before they knew it Kiriko and Karen were also fascinated by their brilliant skills like Fuku.

Seina, who had gotten out of the bath, was sitting on the sofa and had something like a ball with a face on his head. “Uhm ... ... what is this?”

“I’m doing a personal data check on you Seina, please be patient for just a little more.” Washu smiled and – – –, and soon after, Amane stared at Washu in an angry manner.

“Wow, Ms. Washu, is that ball able to examine his personal data or is it just a simple instrument?”

“Yeah, I can measure everything perfectly with just this.” Washu said with the innocent smile of a child.

If there was a devil, Amane made the face that could only belong to him in response. “THEN WHY DID YOU USE MR. SLIMEY #3?!” In Amane's temple, a blood vessel was emerging clearly.

“Oh, why Amane, do you want me to show Seina the video I took of you being analyzed by it? You looked stunning in it.”

She took video partially to keep them from doing anything to her and partially because she wanted to. And also … (One day I have to remember to give Seina a copy as a gift.) But not until after he was a proper adult. Before that, she was afraid of upsetting Tenchi.

“Washu ... ...”

“Hahahahahahahaha ~ ~ ~!”

“Grrr!” Except for the two who were fascinated by the cooking of Sasami and Noike, all those who were touched by Mr. Slimy firmly clenched their fists. However, the delicious smell drifting from the kitchen calmed them down and made them forget.

The ball made a pinging sound, suddenly a small data monitor was displayed on the ceiling of the living room.

“Well, what is it!?” Ryoko Balta asked.

“... Uhuhuhuh Ahahahahahahahaha! This is a masterpiece!” Washu laughed loudly.

“What, is this?” Amane also asked.

“According to this data, when I put it into a simulation, Seina attracts pirates unconditionally within a certain distance, 23 percent of Space Pirates are attracted ... I'm not sure why Ryoko isn't!”

“Do not be foolish! Why would I ever fall for such a stupid thing?”

“In your case you're probably too attracted to Tenchi.”

“Good!” Ryoko could not object to Washu’s opinion.

“Ryoko that's a good lie, but your face is saying otherwise.”

“Nuh uh, shut up!” Ayeka and Ryoko's interactions made Amane laugh hard.

“.....”

Meanwhile, only one person, Tenchi, gazed silently at Seina and moved his eyes to Washu. His expression was serious.

“Everyone, please prepare the table!” Sasami said. Neither Ayeka nor Ryoko kept talking. Tenchi also started moving. All of them moved the sofa and prepared the tabletop. Sasami's orders were absolute when it came time to eat. Otherwise, they would have to go without any more meals till breakfast. The table was ready in a blink of an eye, and dishes were brought out in rapid succession.

“Miyaa ... ...” Fuku got wobbly at the sight.

“Seina, sit over here.” When Tenchi sat he pointed to Seina's seat. Kiriko and the others were already seated neatly.

“Alright everyone eat up!”

“Let's eat!” At Sasami's signal, everyone dug in.

“Delicious!” Seina said unintentionally. Kiriko and Karen, both experienced chefs, seemed impressed.

“Wow ... Although I had expectations from watching you cook ... I never expected it to be this good.” Karen was shocked by the perfection of the food.

“Sasami was officially trained in cooking, for her it's like a kind of martial art.”

“Indeed ... It certainly is.”

Watching Sasami cooking reminded them of how a professional dancer danced.

“Well, we also have very good crops we get locally. Tenchi's carrots and the ingredients used here are also the same ones used in royal dishes.” Noike said, a bit embarrassed.

“Sasami and Noike, there's no need to be so modest.”

“Really, it has been a long time since I have eaten something this good.”

Ringo was from the Imperial Family, Amane was from the Kaunaq family. They had plenty of experience with royal cooking. Especially since Ringo learned the same cooking techniques, she could understand just how skilled Sasami and Noike were from the taste.

“Oh yeah, Kiriko-sama! How about letting Sasami-san and Noike know about your idea for the store's dishes?”

“Oh, that's a good idea.”

“What are you talking about?” Sasami looked at them with glittering eyes.

“Well... Actually ...”

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While cleaning up the meal in the kitchen, Kiriko told Sasami about how they were revamping the menu of readily cooked items for the Yamada's family store. “But we can't use any fancy ingredients. We need it to be easy to make and affordable.”

“We just need to find a golden combination.”

“A golden combination?”

“It is a combination of ingredients that makes it delicious no matter what it's made into.”

“Oh, I see, I supposed that would be the simplest approach.”

“If there are any dishes that you liked in today's lunch, I can teach you the recipe.”

“Noike, I'm heading out again.” Tenchi, who wore his work clothes called out.

Noike chased after Tenchi to see him off as he went out to do field work, Sasami and Kiriko followed.

Outside, Seina and Ringo had changed into work clothes just like Tenchi.

“Oh, are you going with him?”

“Yes, but I don't think there's really much left to do ...” Seina said.

“Actually, we recently decided to increase the number of carrots we grow to sell to your family’s shop.”

“Oh, I see .... So, is that why he's headed back out?” Noike saw Ryo-Ohki standing next to Tenchi. Most of the field carrots were for Ryo - Ohki.

“Well now that Ryo-Ohki has grown she can control her appetite better and it's for Fuku's husband so it's worth it. Isn't that right Ryo-Ohki?”

“Miya!” Ryo-Ohki cheerfully raised her hand to respond.

“Sorry Ryo-Ohki, but thank you ...” Ryo-Ohki smiled at Seina. Tenchi gently stroked Ryo-Ohki's head.

“Why are you going Ringo ...?”

“I may be royalty but I'm not lazy, I also want to help Seina's family out.”

“... Well then... I guess we will see you again soon.”

Finding a break in the conversation, Tenchi headed for the field.

“Do your best! I will take you some snacks later!” Sasami returned to the kitchen.

“Well then, what should we do?”

“Kiriko-oneesan, what about we think up desserts to sell at the shop, and today's snacks can serve as a prototype?”

“Oh, that's good idea!”

Sasami, Kiriko and Karen happily began thinking up dessert recipes.

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Chapter Eleven: Washu's Tour

“Mia. Miya.” With Ryo-Ohki in the lead, Tenchi headed to the field in the strong sunlight. Normally, except for the harvest season, only two people went with Tenchi to the fields, but today there were a lot of people. It gave off the atmosphere of a picnic or a hike. Ryo-Ohki was happy, practically floating.

“Mia! Myamya Mia!” The smell of grass and the smell of soil mixed together. Fuku was also excited and was running around like a dog unleashed from her chain on a walk.

At that time, Fuku discovered an interesting game... Well, she thought it was a game. She plunged into withered weeds and got entangled with it. “Mia aa Ann! Mia! Mia!” And then after she was rescued by Seina, the foolish Fuku repeatedly did the same thing again and again and again.

“Hey, you just took a bath! What are you thinking?” Fuku’s fur was now filled with sticky grass seeds from head to toe.

“Fuku-chan seems to be having fun.” Tenchi said pleasantly.

“Well, yes, actually there are natural residential areas like the royal ships have in the Kamidake... When I took her to the sea, she ran into the waves just like this actually, she got thrown by the waves and was buried in the sand. Her tail looked just like a sea urchin.”

“Was she okay?”

“We quickly dug her up, but she was laughing happily ...” Behind Seina, Fuku thrust into the bushes again and got entangled.

“So, did she repeat the same thing over and over like now?”

“Even though I knew she couldn't drown I was worried ... Amane seems to think she has a death wish.” Seina pulled Fuku out from with the bushes and sighed while brushing off the insects and dirt.

“Ryo-Ohki was also like that when she was small. She would chase the butterflies and hit trees and walls, or fall in the river, it was a serious problem.”

“Did you reprimand her?”

“Oh yeah ... We had to as often as possible, and we had to keep an eye on her all the time, but little by little she learned not to do it. Ryo-Ohki has really calmed down with age, I think that Fuku will be the same way.”

Ringo was looking pleasantly at two as they talked.

“Huh... Why are you looking at us like that ...?” Tenchi and Seina, who noticed her gaze asked what was wrong.

“You two look like two dads swapping child raising tips.”

“Eh!?” Tenchi and Seina, looked at each other at the same time and they both turned red. Ringo laughed.

“... Well then, shall we start working on the field?” Tenchi asked. He climbed a slope and stood at the edge of the field.

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Around 3 o'clock, Sasami ran to the field with a big basket of snacks. Noike came traveling in the truck along the road with large baskets to collect the harvested carrots.

“Oh!” Sasami came up to the top of the hill and came to a position where she could see the area where she stopped in surprise. It was because there were carrots planted as far as the eye could see and all the ones that were ready had been harvested. Usually, it took the Masaki family about three days to complete that task.

“Wow Tenchi-niichan, this is amazing.” Sasami said with a sigh while approaching Tenchi and Seina who were resting beside a carrot mountain.

“Having everyone here is so handy, usually this takes me quite a while.” Tenchi said with a bit of a wry smile. In the Masaki family, Ryoko, Ayeka, and Mihoshi never did any of the field work. In contrast, the Yamada family was full of workers and cooks like Noike and Sasami.

“Oh, this is amazing, are you already done?” Noike asked as she stopped the truck and brought out a big case from the back. She looked around happily.

“Tenchi, let's clean up the carrots before we have tea.”

“No, with this many, we won't be able to get them all carried to be washed in one trip, so let's do it after tea.”

”Well, I guess you’re right... well then, Kiriko, Karen, please set things up.” Noike instructed.

Kiriko and Karen spread a blanket under a nice tree and put out a small table full for food. Then Noike and Sasami began to line up desserts in baskets on top. There were so many kinds they could have opened a small shop with it.

“Oh!” Needless to say, everyone was surprised, not just Ryo-Ohki and Fuku.

“This looks amazing, doesn't it?”

“I made these as examples of what we should sell at Seina's shop, they're my prototype desserts.” Karen said. Noike who saw Tenchi’s reaction was very satisfied.

Kiriko smiled nicely and presented a basket of wet hand towels.

They wiped their hands and waited for Sasami to give them the ok to dig in.

“Come on, let's eat!”

“Mmm, this is delicious!”

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Washu was analyzing Seina's personal data in her laboratory. She was very excited.

“Hmm, I see... Everything is going well so far... But ...” Washu, who was in a good mood, took a look at another window on which some data was displayed. Suddenly she put on a serious face and sighed a little. She wiped out the window and shook it off before she got up.

“Well, I guess I should collect data from the others now ... Ehehehee.” Washu had on a terrifying smile. She put on a lab coat and went into a long-distance transfer gate.

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“Yooohoooo~~! How are you?” Washu came out in Airi's office at the Academy. At that moment, a time freezing protective barrier for security went off and the time around Airi's secretaries stopped.

“Washu, what are you doing here so suddenly?” Airi obviously had on an upset face. It was rude to come without an appointment.

“Airi I'm here to ... Yeah, no, actually I don't need it...”

“That's an odd greeting, what's not needed?”

“Oh, Mikami, I want to take a scan of your personal data please. Please get ready for me right away.” Ignoring Airi, Washu approached Mikami. It was an order rather than a request.

“My personal data?” Washu-sama's order confused her. “.... What is it about, if you don't mind me asking?”

If the other party was Washu, resistance was futile, but at the very least by knowing she could help her get the information she needed.

“It's regarding Seina, isn't it ...? She must want to know your feelings to see if you deserve to be with him.” Airi, as only a philosopher would have noticed the general intention of Washu.

“Wow Washu, is that it!?”

“Well in that case, test me! I'm the best!”

“If you are feeling sexually frustrated, you should take that up with your husband, you don't have to hide from him. Tenchi knows you exist already.”

“Yeah, but Seina would be better ... ... ♡”

“If it's because you’re into Shotas, then you can always build you and him some younger bodies to use, you're a philosopher after all...”

“But Yosho won't be into that.”

“Well, I'm sure he'd be excited to see that face you’re making right now thinking about it, I'm sure he would be up for it if you asked like that...”

“No no... Test me for Seina! Test me for Seina!” Airi latched onto Washu and burst into tears.

“Oh my! What a gloomy girl!” Suddenly Airi was frozen in time. For very brief moment but there was a very quickly accelerated technological battle that had just happened that was on a level of speed that was invisible to ordinary people. Obviously Washu had won.

“Come now, Mikami, that annoyance is no longer a problem for us.”

“... I understand, I can't refuse if it's for Seina.” Mikami smiled.

“Good girl, I will show you heaven for being such a good girl.”

“……Heaven??” At that moment, Mikami was covered a black shadow.

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Washu finished measuring Mikami after having returned to her research facility. She returned though the very long-distance gate was for VIP's and had confidentiality protection.

“Well then ... I guess I should get the most distant ones out of the way first.” Washu jumped to the Mikagami's bridge. She walked up to Seto who was quietly sitting on her throne.

“Wow ~ ~ ~ ...” she said as she got closer and got in Seto's face and looked at her closely.

“What's wrong Washu? Why are you here so suddenly??”

“Oh, there we go! I'm here to borrow you for a while.” Washu pulled Seto by the hand to the gate.

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“What's wrong? Do you need me for something?”

“I don't need Seto, But I need I do need you, Mirror.”

“.....” Seto stared at Washu, without changing her expression at all. But she closed her eyes.

“... How did you know?” She asked.

“How long do you think Naja and I were together?”

“Do you think we share the same cells? I am not a clone but a mirror of Seto ... If there's something you want from Naja, then you'll have to find Seto.”

Although a shadow warrior merely imitated one's figure, she was a mirror warrior with memory and ability copying and all.

“That's a shame should anything happen to Naja ... ... Ha ha! But besides me, I don't think anyone would ever mind.”

“That's true, but ... ... I don't think that Seto's memories are necessary anymore either... I only want my own.”

“Aren't you only supposed to be able to tie your identity to someone else through the power of a first-generation royal Tree? I know it doesn't make any sense, but did Seina somehow ruin that link?”

“I don't think anyone expected what has happened because of that child” The mirror said without changing her expression at all.

“But if you have only memories of you, then when would that have started?”

“Why do you ask!?” At that time, an expression of embarrassment emerged in the facial expression of the mirror. Her first memory was of Seina, it was important to her, as important as life. She was no longer a mirror because she was determined not to share that memory.

“You are cute and straightforward... Good girl!” Washu was pleased with Mirror Seto's expression… It was as if her old girlfriend was there.

“..... I will consent to my scan. If you promise not to use ‘Mister Slimy No.3’”.

“Wow, so you knew about that already... Did Mikami tell you?” Washu frowned a bit with disappointment. The mirror gave a smile in retort.

“Well, if don't you want to taste heaven like Mikami, I won't stop you...”

“Ahahahaha!”

“Hmm, should I make Minaho my victim after this?”

“I don't see why you would... She has barely had any contact with Seina.”

“Yeah, I guess you’re right... What about Yuzaki and Kanemitsu’s daughter? Isn't she Seina's fiancé ...”?

“Well, yes, but you should wait until she grows up.”

“I'm not going to use ‘Mister Slimy No.3’ on her. Hmmm, do you have any other subordinates I should check?”

The mirror displayed a list of her subordinates she recommended be tested.

“Oh wow... Way to sell out your own employees.”

“I'm sure they will enjoy it.”

“Of course.” The two laughed like demons.

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“Kakekekeke! What a pushover! If that was Naja, she wouldn't have fallen for that.” Washu was skipping down the road happily. After that conversation with the mirror, she had carried out a surprise attack on her with ‘Mr. Slimy No.3’, and it was brilliantly successful.

“I should have taken a video of that... She'll thank me for that someday ... Perhaps... Hmm... Is this the right place?” Currently Washu was in Kirche's cyber space. She passed through the facility set up for the other researchers and headed to a small house on the hill. There were many researchers there, but no one noticed her since she wore spectacles and bandana.

Washu suddenly stopped and looked around. “Hmm ... ... This is an interesting fantasy.” It was a calm and idyllic countryside which was not all that spectacular, but it was a scene created by Kirche. In a way it was her mental scenery, the place in Kirche's mind in which she wished to live a life with Seina.

Washu approached the door of the house and was about to ring the doorbell when she heard a voice from the backyard.

“Oh dear! So, what do you think is in the letter?”

“It seems to be various data left by Miki; I'm thinking it might be coordinates ... ...”

“Hello, young lady” Washu said. Speaking behind Kirche's turned back as Kirche talked to Hiroshi.

“Aaah! I didn't see you there! Sorry. I was distracted.” Kirche quickly stopped washing the white sheet she was cleaning and ran to Washu. Washu took off her glasses and bandana.

“Well, you sure are pretty ... Are you a new researcher?”

“AAAAAAAH!” Contrary to Kirche who inquired smilingly, Hiroshi stared at Washu with immense shock on his face, his mouth hung open.

“In reality, I came here to greet you before asking to use your personal data.”

“But... But ... .”

“If that's what you want, ask Airi, she already has it”

“Oh, is that so, you let her have it so freely?” She was like a puppy who didn't know how to doubt people. She didn't recognize any danger in giving your data to a philosopher. Washu was a bit sad there was no resistance.

“It's you, is it really you ... ... Is this a joke?” Hiroshi somehow managed to sputter.

“Well, I am busy, so I'll see you again soon.” Ignoring Hiroshi's question, Washu walked back towards the town.

“Oh! By the way ... ... what's your name?”

“He seems to be familiar with it, so please ask him.” That being said, Washu bowed to Kirche and left, she turned to Hiroshi.

“Hey ... Hiroshi, are you all right? You look like you've seen a ghost.”

“Ghosts ... Exactly, that might be ... ...”

“Haaaaaaaaaaaaa!”

“If my eyes and memory serve me right, if her that was really her..... that was legendary philosopher, Washu Hakubi.”

“Ms. Washu Hakubi!?”

It was a familiar name to Kirche. No, for anyone living in the academy, the name of Washu was the same as saying the name of Nobunaga Hideyoshi or Tokugawa Ieyasu to someone from Japan.

“That was definitely Washu-sama ...”

“There have been rumors about her being alive ... ... If she isn't, then we may have just really seen a ghost ...” They kept staring at the place where Washu had stood.

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Tenchi, who had finished his work, was looking in the direction of the Masaki family home which was lit by the setting sun.

“It's a beautiful sight.” Seina said. It was almost time for Seina who had spent all day playing in the Masaki village to go home. He would soon have to return to the normal world. So, he felt a little sad.

“Senpai, are you going to stay here forever? Haven't you ever considered going out into space?”

“Well ... ... I don't know about the future but for now I still want to do a lot of things here.”

“What do you want to do?”

“I'd like to grow more crops and make some pottery, we also make tea bowls and dishes etc. I'm learning Bamboo working in Masaki village right now.”

“So, did you make that basket that Sasami brought us sweets in?” To Seina's question, Tenchi nodded.

“... ... So is your end goal self-sufficiency?”

“Oh ... Well kind of, it's a fun idea don't you think?”

“What about you Seina, what do you want to do?”

“I'm happy with my current job.”

“Really……”

“Hey Seina, uhm... Uh... Well... There's no rush to do this anytime soon, but do you think you would ever want to come back here?”

“Huh?”

“I'm not talking about right now, but if you did, things could be like they were a long time ago ...”

Seina and Tenchi, and Kai were always together when they were young. But when Tenchi entered Junior High, he got other friends and when he entered High School and moved to Kurashiki they saw each other much less frequently.

“It may be okay here for you, but for me, the Earth is a painful place to be ... But if I had to, I wouldn't mind living in Masaki village, after all the Earth is still my home planet.”

“I'm glad you feel that way.” Tenchi didn't say anything more; that was enough for him. The wind blowing through the valleys was comfortable and the two stood and watched the scenery for what seemed like forever.

“.....”

In a place slightly away from Tenchi and Seina, Noike and Kiriko kept silent as they watched the two. Tenchi and Seina were both still young, but on their backs was a heavy burden.

The carrots were already loaded and they were ready to go home, but the people there were content with watching the atmosphere between the two of them and so they didn’t say anything about it.

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It was Washu who greeted Tenchi when he came back to the Masaki family home.

“Hokuto is here with the van. You should help him load up the carrots.” Washu said to Seina. The girls quickly headed for the bath. Seina left Fuku with Sasami and headed off to help Hokuto load up the carrots.

“Hey Tenchi.” Washu called to Tenchi who was left alone with her. She got closer to him. “Seina's test results came back.” She checked to make sure no one was around and then crouched to whisper to Tenchi who was also crouching.

“!! ..... So, is it happening to him?”

“I'm afraid so……”

“……I see.” Tenchi's face was pale blue. He seemed to be trembling.

“I can talk to him about it for you.” She tenderly said with a hand gently on Tenchi's back.

“No ... This is something I have to talk about with him directly.”

“Okay, I understand.” Washu softly moved her hand to Tenchi's face and gently kissed him like a child.

“Thank you.” The trembling of Tenchi's hand ceased and his expression returned to normal.

*** * * Translators’ note: The thing that Washu frowns about in the beginning is what Tenchi talks to Seina about. * * ***

Chapter Twelve: Reunion at Moon Lake

“Thank you senpai, please take care of Fuku. Fuku, please listen to everyone while I'm gone, they're in charge, I'll pick you up tomorrow.”

“Miah!” Fuku looked at him from on top of Ryo-Ohki. Today, Fuku was being left to stay at Tenchi’s house.

“Don't worry, I'm close by, I'll contact you as soon as I have time.”

“Don't worry, I'll take care of getting your bike fixed.” Tenchi told him.

“Um ... ... Maybe it's best that he doesn't ride his bike while he's here on Earth…” Washu said.

“... ... Hey Seina, I know that you can't help me today because you promised to meet with Tsukiko, but you're going to stay at our place tomorrow, right? There's something I want to talk to you about ... ... So, make sure you make it back over here.” Tenchi told Seina as he got in his father's van.

“Oh ... ... Okay, I'll make sure of it ... ...”

“Well then, I'll be waiting for you tomorrow.” Tenchi said as Seina got in the van.

“Thank you Tenchi! We can really use these carrots. I'll put the payment on your tab next time I come by.” Hokuto, Seina's father, said from the driver’s window. Tenchi bowed to him.

“Bye Tenchi” Kiriko waved.

“Well then, we're off.” Hokuto said as he began to drive off.

It was a moderate walk to Masaki village for an adult, but it took less than five minutes in a van. Soon the van arrived in front of Tsukiko's house.

“Kiriko! Seina!” In front of the house Tsukiko waved as she waited for them to get off the bus.

“Tsukiko, san!” For a moment Seina thought back to what Kuisu said to him on Jurai, and it canceled out his familiar perception of Tsukiko but her waiving and the scenery of the village brought him back to it. However, Seina didn't call her “Aunt Tsukiko”, rather he called her “Tsukiko-san”.

When Seina got out of the van, Kai heard him and came out. “Oh, friend of mine, you've returned!” Kai came out in a tuxedo for some reason... Perhaps he was checking how it looked on him in a mirror.

“What brings you back to the country aaahk ... ...!” Kai saw Amane come out of the van and quickly grabbed Seina and took him to the side to talk to him

“What? What's wrong, Kai?”

“W-w-w-w-w-what's going on? Who is that girl!?”

“Oh, she's my colleague ...”

“Are you saying you go to school with a transcendent Hyper Ultra Deluxe beauty like that every day?! That is not at all what I expected you to be doing ... ... Are there really girls who look like that in the city!?”

“Oh... That ... Yes... I understand why you would feel that way.”

“Is she single? Do you think I have a chance?!” Kai closed his eyes and made a kissy face. Seina got mad and punched him.

“Oh shit...” He suddenly remembered he was Bio-Enhanced. Kai went flying back. “Oops... Uhm... ... Sorry. Are you OK?”

“Uhhh ... ... Ahahaha, Seina, that was a good punch, thanks for that... Now I know I'm not dreaming.” Kai said jumping to his feet exhilarated. His nose was bleeding.

“Well, that's good.”

”Ha ha ha! What a Hyper Ultra Deluxe beautiful woman!” But when Kai went to look again, Amane had already gotten back in the van and Seina's dad had already driven off. “Why did she leave?! Why? Why? Why??!” Kai fell to his knees and did a clap and a prayer.

“Are you going to stand outside forever being stupid or are you going to come on in!” Tsukiko looked down at her son coldly.

“Oh, I nearly forgot to say hello to my funny brother.” Kiriko patted Kai on the back.

“S ... ... Sorry ... Sorry! Seina! Let's go inside! ...” Kai took Seina and ran into the house...

However, Tsukiko hit him on the head. “How many times have I told you don't run in the house?!”

“Ah, sorry!” Kai got down cowering. Tsukiko raised her long elegant legs as she prepared to drop kick him. Seina caught a glimpse under her skirt. She stopped herself.

“Oh! I forgot we have company ... ...!” Tsukiko stood back up, embarrassed. She took a deep breath to calm herself and fixed her hair and clothes.

“Go home, Seina-chan.” She said with eyes that reminded him of the one's Kuisu had towards him.

The image of the two overlapped in his mind. Seina turned red and his heart raced desperately. “But I am home,” was all he could manage to say. The two found themselves unable to look away from each other as their eyes met. It looked like a pair of lovers looking at each other across the room.

“Mom! Seina! Are you planning on just standing there forever?” Kiriko said with a frustrated look. She grabbed Seina by the arm and pulled him into the dining room. Tsukiko snapped out of it and hurried to follow them.

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“Owww! Mother, you know I'm just glad that Seina came back. You didn't have to be so harsh with me.” Kai said as he sat at the table.

“So Seina, how does it taste? I hope it tastes just like you remember it... It's been a while since I last made this dish.” Tsukiko kept staring at Seina's face. Of course, it was partially because she wanted to ignore Kai.

“It's really tasty.” Seina was eating Tsukiko’s curry. It had summer vegetables that were harvested in the village and Tenchi's carrots. Taro's grandmother, Kei raised the chicken carefully to be delicious. But the Roux was store bought.

In a sense, it was very common curry that anyone could make, but Seina thought this curry was the most delicious thing in the world.

“.....” Kiriko seemed a little mad as Seina ate his curry. Indeed, Kiriko could make a much more authentic curry, but Seina was used to Tsukiko's curry, so when she made it for him, she would make it the way Tsukiko would, but she wasn’t ever able make it taste like exactly Tsukiko's that way.

“Anyways Mother, your curry is good why don't you make it more often? This is the first time you've made it in nearly half a year.”

“.....” His mother ignored him.

“Sis, it's ridiculous. She won't ever make it for me when I ask, but the second Seina comes back she starts preparing it the night before.”

”.....” Kiriko also ignored him.

“... ... Mother! Can I at least get some more!” Kai was then ignored by both Tsukiko and Kiriko.

“Seina-chan, what about you?”

“Oh, hold on. I'll get it.” Tsukiko took Seina's plate and made him seconds.

“.... So... Seina. Where are you staying? Are you in Tokyo or Osaka or Fukuoka?”

“Well ... Uhm ... .” Seina wasn't sure what to say because he didn't know what lies they had told Kai. “What ever happened with that pamphlet... did you get to see that theme park?”

“Well, about that ... .”

“Here you are, I've explained it to you over and over again. Do you even listen to me?!” Tsukiko rushed to give Kai seconds to get him to shut up about Seina.

“I'll explain it to you again later when he ... ...”

“Wow ~ ~ ~ Curry!” Kai talked loudly over Tsukiko... And then he began eating quickly.

She kept this up all throughout dinner and Kai never got to hear about Seina's “life in the city.”

× × ×

Kai changed into more comfortable clothes and plopped down on the sofa and rubbed his stomach.

“You two should go bathe... you were outside in the garden and you're covered in mud...” Tsukiko said while clearing the table.

“A bath sounds nice... Hey Seina, I hear your folks recently installed a huge bath... We should go check it out.”

“Why would you want to go bathe at my house... There's a bath right here...”

“I want to get a peep at that Hyper Ultra Deluxe beautiful woman you brought here with you aaaaah ~ ~ ~ ...!” Tsukiko drop kicked him and stood on top of him.

Seina again caught a glimpse of her panties from the gap in her skirt.

“Oh!!” He panicked and looked away, but his enhanced vision from his latest round of bio-enhancement etched the image clearly into his mind.

* * * **Translators’ note: At this point, Seina has undergone bio-enhancement for like a 3rd time and now basically echo locates images of things whether he wants to or not... He even ends up seeing through people’s clothes at times. * * ***

Tsukiko was confused by this. But then she turned red once she realized the view Seina was getting. She lost track of time as she was embarrassed and was accidentally crushing Kai's windpipe.

“Seina... Help.” Kai tried to call out.

Tsukiko rushed to hold down her skirt and ran to the kitchen to escape the situation. Kai got himself back up and sat at the table and keeled over on it as he struggled to breathe and passed out.

“..... Goddamn it, Kuisu-san ... I'll get back at you for this.” Tsukiko said as she entered the kitchen.

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Seina took the stunned Kai to his room and laid him in his futon. He had expected him to regain consciousness as he took him back, but he was still unconscious and limp.

“... ... Times like these make me really appreciate my Bio-Enhancement.” It takes more power than usual to carry an unconscious person.

“... ... Seina-chan,” Tsukiko called to him from outside of the room.

“Tsukiko-san?”

“Sorry, but if you could... Could you just stand there and listen to me...?” Tsukiko hurried to stop Seina from going out into the hallway. “... I'm sorry ... I lack the confidence to say this properly to you face to face.”

“Huh?”

It felt weird to him to talk to her like this, but he also wanted the privacy, so he didn't turn into a blubbering mess.

“This is about Kuisu, isn't it?”

“You aren't in trouble... This isn't anything bad ... ... It's just, I'm embarrassed because what she told you as me was true.”

“… It was true?” Like Kuisu had said, her acting out Tsukiko's feelings for Seina were real. His heartbeat sped up.

Although it was confirmed via Kuisu, she had confessed her lover to Seina. It was the first time someone had done that to him.

“I ... I've been thinking about it for a long time, what if you had stayed on Earth, what would have happened?”

“What would have happened ...?” Seina thought but, as always, it only resulted in him being aware of the fact that there were almost no choices for him in life if he hadn't gone to space. Even if he got older and acquired new knowledge, it wouldn't have changed anything, no matter how smart he got. “Well high school and college would be impossible, so that would just leave me being a burden to Masaki village ... At least that's my usual conclusion.”

“The only logical conclusion is you and me together in this house.”

“Oh, I guess that's right. If that's what you wanted.” Seina had always intended to live in a vacant house in the village, but if Tsukiko was ok with it there would have been reason to refuse her.

“And what then...?” The way Tsukiko talked to him reminded him of how she usually talked when explaining things to Kiriko.

“I guess there is the chance that I would eventually learn the truth of Masaki village.”

“Yes, and most likely Kiriko would have stopped coming every now and then to see you ... ... So surely I think over time we would have just naturally fallen in love with each other.”

“Oh!!” Seina’s face turned red he panicked slightly. He was accustomed to trouble, but not to confessions of love. It was a strong poison for Seina. Indeed, things like romance seemed like a super expensive commodity that was out of reach.

“In ten years, the physical difference between us would disappear, and anyone who saw us would logically assume we were a couple.”

Seina thought about it.

“We would make for a perfect couple!” Tsukiko said powerfully, as if reading Seina's heart. “But Seina went to space, and that timeline didn't happen... But I thought, that's okay... I could still be your Aunt Tsukiko, and you could be Seina, my son's friend and the boy who adores my daughter ... ...”

Kuisu had rushed what she had planned to wait a decade to tell him.

“I'd still like for that to be the case Seina. I'd like for you to still see me as your Aunt for now.”

“... But ...” (But where did Tsukiko's romance go? When did you notice that feeling I wonder?) Where would Seina's feelings go now that he knew about it?

“There's not much difference how couples are, whether they have life span of several thousand years or not. Sometimes they get married, sometimes they break up, sometimes they break up and get back together again, but it's the same everywhere. Here it's usually just giving birth and raising children, and then their lifetime ends with the children inheriting their wisdom. But we are a long-lived people. We don't have to spend all our lifetime doing that. Besides being married over hundreds of years creates a bond stronger than blood.”

“Stronger than blood?” At that time, Seina remembered the conversation he had with Yosho at the Shinto shrine over Airi's repeatedly attempted infidelity.

× × ×

“Well, we've been together over 700 years, and we've only been only back together for like 500 years of that ... And that's a long time to only be with one person... Especially living long distance and besides that... Philosophers just tend to be sexual deviants...”

× × ×

“It's not even uncommon for both partners to end up partnered with another partner, sometimes even while maintaining that tight connection.”

Couples commonly had other different lovers as well as each other. There was no such concept in space of it being an affair like it was on the Earth. Of course, there were no legal problems with it either.

“So Seina, you and I may reach that timeline together again maybe in a few hundred years from now ... ... And that's enough for me, we're still young.”

“Are we young ...?”

“Yes, we are, the average life expectancy now is 2,000 years. Assuming that the average Earthlings lifespan is 80 years, it's about 25 times shorter than ours. Our difference is less a year if you think of it on that scale.”

“I guess that's true when you put it that way.” Seina understood what she meant. “... ... It's taken me a while to realize that I'm really not an Earthling anymore.”

“Heh, well, then, why don't you go take a bath, Seina-chan. It's been a long day.”

“Okay, Aunt Tsukiko.” Seina was glad to call her Aunt Tsukiko again. They could finally look each other in the face again normally.

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“Hey Kiriko, when he's done will you take a bath together with me?” About 30 minutes later, Tsukiko who confirmed that Seina had left the bath called out to Kiriko who was lounging in the living room.

“... ... You look happy, what happened?”

“Come on let's go.” Tsukiko didn't answer Kiriko's question and headed to the bathroom.

“Wait a moment!” Like a chick following her mother, Kiriko hastily followed after Tsukiko.

The two took off their clothes without saying anything. It looked like a mirror, if one mirror showed what the person would look like in a few years.

* * * **Translators’ note:**

<--- Tsukiko at Kiriko's age | Kiriko ---->

* * *

They got in the bath.

“Hey mom, I have a question about earlier ...”

“I've dealt with my relationship with Seina properly, everything is back to normal.”

“Oh...”

“Are you surprised? I just put things back to how they were before Kuisu got involved. But what about you, when are you going to tell him? Hah, when are you going to make up your mind ...?” Kiriko pretended not to hear her.

“He's surrounded by attractive girls now ... ... If you don't act quickly, you might miss your chance.”

“But I ...! ... I ... .”

“It's not like you're not pretty enough.”

“Aaaah!” Tsukiko gave Kiriko's butt a tickle.

“What's the problem? Why are you so particular about keeping a distance between you and Seina?”

“Oh! That ... ... That's what you mean.”

“You don't need to do that anymore; you have made amends with him already and you shouldn't have had to make amends with him in the first place.”

“.... .... But I know what I did, and I can't forgive myself ...!” Kiriko painfully covered her face with her hands.

“Well then I'll forgive you.”

“… Eh?”

“I've been watching over Seina for the same amount of time as you have, the exact same time ... ...” Tsukiko brought her face closer so that she looked into Kiriko's eyes.

Her eyes were not that of a mother's but the eyes of a woman. Eyes of jealousy not of charity. It was as if she was issuing her a challenge.

“I will forgive you, not as mother, but a woman, the same as you.” Her worlds quietly reverberated in the bathroom. Tsukiko at that time looked exactly like a mirror image of Kiriko.

“The same as me ... ... As a woman ...”

“Yes ... So please stop worrying ...”

“Don't worry? ... Stop it?” Like she was hypnotized by looking into Tsukiko’s eyes, Kiriko repeated back her words, Tsukiko slowly nodded.

“!!” And the spell of the mirror was unraveled, and the animation returned to Kiriko's face.

“Okay, do you understand Kiriko?”

“... ... Yes, I understood ... ... I understand ... ... I will make an effort.”

“Good, you don't want the other girls getting ahead of you ... ...”

“... What about you?”

“I won't hold back either.” She said with a face like Gyokuren might make.

“Mother!”

“I reset the relationship with me and Seina, but I can choose to pursue it at any time. Thanks to Kuisu, everything is set and ready for me when I want to go.” Tsukiko stared at her like a snake would stare at a mouse.

Kiriko stiffened up and got sweaty.

“So do your best.” Tsukiko brought her face close to intimidate her.

“... ... Yes, mother.” Kiriko nodded with little tears in the corner of her eyes.

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Seina was looking up at the moon outside. He hadn't seen Earth's moon in a long time, but it was just as beautiful as he remembered. Especially in the village where there were no streetlamps or lit buildings to block out the stars. It had a special beauty that shone in the darkness of the night.

“... ... The moon looks beautiful tonight, doesn't it?” A voice said behind Seina. It was Kiriko who had just gotten out of the bath.

“What did you and my mother talk about?”

”Eh!?” Seina was shocked. Seina had thought Kiriko was Tsukiko.

“Oh... Uh, nothing...”

“What are you doing out here?”

“... ... It's strange, isn't it? I never thought I'd ever be able to go to the moon ...”

“Well, now you can go even further.”

“... ... Is it farther? ...How far can we go?”

“Just how far can we go?”
Kiriko felt unspeakable distress at those words and face.
“...Don't leave me.”
Her voice sounded childlike, as if fading away.

“.....” Seina wasn't looking at Kiriko, but she was upset and began crying. “... I wanted you to leave me stay here... Don't leave me.” She said meekly.

“What?” Seina turned to look at her, but she had run inside. Tsukiko had come out in a yukata as he looked around for Kiriko.

Tsukiko came to Seina and looked in his eyes. “If you're not sleepy yet, I'd like for you to go out with me for dinner ... What do you say?”

“... ... Well... Ok, but ... ...”

“It's nowhere fancy, I just want to talk somewhere nice outside where we can talk so I can tell you some things I can't while Kai is around.”

“Oh, I see.”

“So how about it?”

“… Sure.”

“There should be some nice clothes in Kai's room. Please change.”

“Alright.”

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Tsukiko went into the living room while Seina went to change. “If you don't want me to be alone with Seina, then please get ready to come with us.” Tsukiko said to Kiriko who wiping the tears from her face.

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Tsukiko poured Seina some plum flavored Italian soda she made from syrup and some carbonated water she brought with her and booze for her and Kiriko.

“So, do you like it?” Tsukiko asked as Seina took a sip.

“Yes, it reminds me of summer.”

“I'm happy ... ... Kai only ever drinks cola!”

“Why are you still waiting to tell Kai the truth?”

“I know I should have done it already; I'm just waiting until Dai is gone.”

“Mr. Dai is in town?”

“Yes... But I told him not to come over again... The bigger Kai gets the more he misses his father... Well, he misses his wallet at the very least... But if he really wants to see him, he can do it once he gets into space, until then he can wait... Anyways I hate to leave Kai alone like this but I just needed to get out so we could talk.” Tsukiko downed the entire glass.

“He's starting to annoy me... But I don't want to grow to dislike my son.”

Kai had begun acting a bit like Dai. She understood this was because he was partially his child.

“So, when Kai goes into space ... You'll be alone ... ... Have you decided if are you going to go back to learn at the Academy again?”

“What!” Kiriko raised her voice.

“I might, I'm technically on a leave of absence. So, I can if I choose to.”

“Oh, I see… …”

“If you didn't know, once you're enrolled in the academy you’re accepted until you either withdraw or die.”

“Well then, I guess marriage and child rearing must have been a bit of an obstacle for you... So, what was your major mother?”

“I specialized in AI ... Research on artificial intelligence.”

“Oh, so ... That's how ... Oh...”

Seina realized that was how she met Miki's father, Hiroshi. But that made him not want to talk as it would remind him of Miki's death. Of course, Tsukiko didn't want to talk about it either. (Oh, right... that time with Aunt Tsukiko and Miki's father ... ...) But Seina remembered that at the lake. Miki's death was still a painful event for him but thinking of the relieved face of Miki's father back then relieved a bit of the pain.

“By the way, artificial intelligence is something like NB, if only you could have brought it here with you.”

“Well... That might not be a good idea even if I could... He acts a bit... ... ... strange?”

“Oh, well. How your NB's AI turns out is different for everyone. Of course, some just treat them as objects... To prevent that if the owner treats them like they have a personality usually one emerges.”

“Is that so? ... I'll remember that.” Seina said... Kiriko laughed.

“Why are you laughing?” Tsukiko asked Kiriko.

“I don't think that's the issue. There was some weird software installed on it when he first got it... And Amane put even weirder character software on it...”

“Oh really? It was made by Airi right? Did you try sending it back to her?”

“Once ... ... But ... It got even stranger when it returned.”

“Wow ... ... That's amazing, but if it's impossible to fix for her then it's defiantly impossible for me.”

“Heh ... is that so?”

“Oh, your glass is empty.” Tsukiko refilled his glass.

“There’s plenty of plum syrup left over from last year, so please don't hold back. If you like it, please take some back to your place.”

“Thank you”

Tsukiko sat back down... the front of her yukata was open and her cleavage was visible.

“Oh, mom! It's loose...” Kiriko pointed with her eyes at Tsukiko.

“Oh... can you fix it for me?”

Kiriko got up and leaned over Seina to tighten it... Kiriko and Tsukiko talked to each other as Seina was accidentally sandwiched between Kiriko's breasts... A fight broke out between them

as she tightened Tsukiko's yukata when Tsukiko said something to Kiriko about Seina that made her mad. At this point they were both very drunk and started fighting about Seina.

They continued to argue with each other and Seina got pulled into their breasts and was nearly smothered to death by both of them as they fought over him until they got so drunk their argument stopped making any sense and they drunkenly made up... and then passed out.

Chapter Thirteen: Fuku's Great Adventure

The next day before dawn, when everyone was still asleep, Fuku woke up abruptly. She looked around to find Seina. However, Fuku who saw Sasami and Ryo-Ohki instead, remembered she was at the Masaki family home. She wanted to see Seina. She quietly got out of the futon and went to the exit of the room, but she couldn't phase through it or open it. She was about to burst into tears when a gap in the door appeared, Ryo-Ohki had gotten up and opened it for her.

“Miah, Mia!”

“Mya!”

Fuku immediately sniffed the ground and tried to find traces of Seina. Ryo-Ohki lifted Fuku up to her strangely and connected her forehead gem to hers.

As a result, she learned that Fuku's main body was under maintenance, and she couldn't access its systems to find Seina. Moreover, Fuku had trouble when she was born, and only a part of the data accumulated in the main body had been transferred to her.

“Miya.” Ryo-Ohki remembered when she was lost in the past and Ryoko taught her how to access her main body backup data and find her location.

“Mia! Mia!”

The transfer of data was done in a moment, and Fuku soon turned in the direction of the Masaki village where Seina was located.

“Miya!” Fuku and Ryo walked towards the village.

“Oh, what is this?”

“Miya.” Ryo-Ohki said to Azaka and Kamidake who guarded the gate to the family home. “Mia, miah, Miha” Ryo-Ohki explained the matter to Azaka and Kamidake.

“Oh, I see, I see. So, you’re going to meet Fuku's husband?”

“Mia! Miah! Mia!”

“Nothing wrong with that ... she's lonely ... In that case, we won't hold you here. Please have a safe journey.” Azaka and Kamidake, who were moved by Ryo-Ohki and Fuku's complaints, opened the gate.

“If you need anything, just, call us.”

“Be careful ~~”

“Miah!”

Ryo-Ohki and Fuku walked out of the Masaki family home and onto the mountain path illuminated by the light of the moon which floated in the morning sky.

“Miah.” They walked until suddenly they heard a growling voice from the shade of a bush, and two glowing eyes appeared scaring Fuku, who quickly hid behind Ryo.

“Mya!” Ryo-Ohki responded quickly towards the voice to protect Fuku.

The Lord of the groaning voice slowly appeared from the bushes. “Garururuu.”

It was a medium sized stray dog. It was quite large compared to Ryo-Ohki, even if it was only a medium size dog. It had sharp fangs, but Ryo-Ohki wasn't scared.

“Garuruu ... ...?” The dog wagged its tail and rolled on its belly in front of Ryo, lying in an obedient posture.

“Miah!” Ryo-Ohki stroked the dog's belly while holding a confused Fuku on her head.

Ryo-Ohki had once encountered a group of stray dogs while taking a walk in the mountains alone. They were dogs who had been abandoned by their owners, and they found each other and made a pack.

The Wild dogs attacked Ryo-Ohki who had invaded their territory. But she shot a laser beam out of the gemstone on her forehead and blew a hole in the mountain... The wild dogs who were attacked ran away and had acted subordinately towards Ryo-Ohki since then. The dog in front of them was from that pack.

*** * * Translators’ note: From this doujin. https://e-hentai.org/g/1023941/958758e09e/ * * ***

Five puppies, about three months old, came out to chase after the dog. Following them, a large female who was the mother dog, appeared.

“Mia, Miha.”

“Arf arf!” They didn't know why the parent dogs left their pack with their puppies, but Fuku was happy to play with the pups.

“Mia! Miya!”

After playing with a single puppy, Ryo-Ohki explained their quest to the dog. The mother hid the children and herself in the bushes again and the male began to escort Ryo-Ohki and Fuku.

“Miya!” Fuku bid farewell to the puppies and resumed the trip. Soon they arrived at the entrance of the village.

“Arf!” The dog who escorted them barked and stopped there. From here onwards, it was human territory, the dogs wouldn't enter even though it was safe.

“Miya!” Ryo-Ohki thanked the dog and went into the village.

“……Mya.” Ryo-Ohki who entered the village was alarmed despite it being safe. Because there were natural enemies of Ryo-Ohki there. Ryo-Ohki’s natural enemy, a boss chicken kept at Kei’s house, lived here.

* * * **Translators’ note: This is also in that doujin. * * ***

When Ryo-Ohki was still around Fuku's age, she was chased by the rooster who had gotten loose, and it was a big trauma in her childhood.

The sunrise was soon. In other words, it was about time for the rooster to become active. Fortunately, she couldn't hear its crows. If she could make it to Tsukiko's home where Seina was she would be safe. Ryo-Ohki ran quickly. However, ...

“Myaa!” they turned the corner and spotted him!

“Cockadooo.” It felt like he was smiling an evil grin. Ryo-Ohki’s body became rigid with fear.

“Miau.” Fuku cried. Ryo-Ohki's body was frozen, but she couldn't let him harm Fuku.

“Miya!” Ryo-Ohki took a battle position and glared at him.

“Cokle coco, cock!” He was puzzled by Ryo-Ohki for a moment. However, he immediately made a threatening advance towards Ryo-Ohki.

“Myaaa .....” Ryo ran around the chicken madly confusing it and then... Suddenly, Fuku jumped off Ryo-Ohki and made a rush towards him.

“Coke! Kokkokeoeoeoko!!” He saw Fuku rushing over at him and panicked. “... .... Koc ... ... Kokee, Kokeueueuekee!!” The rooster got goosebumps and flew away scared.

“Miya?”

“Mia! Mia! Mia Ah!” Fuku kept running and ran right to Seina who had come out of the entrance.

“Oh! I heard from Sasami-chan that Fuku-chan and Ryo-Ohki were missing, I thought you'd be coming here!” Tenchi said coming up behind them.

“Miyaaaaaaaan” Ryo-Ohki hugged Tenchi and burst into tears.

“Yeah yeah ... it's okay now.”

“Mia! Mia!”

“Fuku, what are you doing here ... ... Tenchi-senpai what's going on?” Seina asked.

“Sorry Seina, they got out.”

“Oh, I see, Ryo-Ohki-chan brought Fuku here.”

“I'm sorry, this is all my fault.”

“No, it’s ok, I understand.”

“Good. Well at least every one's safe this time....”

“Don't worry I've been watching over them.” Suddenly, Washu dissolved her optical camouflage to reveal her walking around with a camera.

“Waaaaa, Washu-chan?”

“Hhuhuhu! I'm titling this “A walk to find your master”! Guhuhuhuhu! I was able to take such good footage.” Washu issued a V sign with a full smile. “I'll edit it later and give it to you, so please look forward to it.” That said, Washu left them and skipped back to the Masaki family home. Tenchi and Seina silently watched her hop away.

“..... uhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhm ... Anyways... I guess everything worked out?”

“Yes... That's right, I'll be more careful next time.”

“Thank you for your patience and thank you Ryo-Ohki-chan.”

“Miya ...” Ryo shyly meowed as he stroked her head.

“... Well, see you later.” Tenchi said, he started to follow Washu.

Tsukiko came out from the entrance. “Seina, I heard someone's voice, is it a guest?”

“It's just Tenchi senpai.”

“Oh?” Tsukiko noticed Fuku on Seina's shoulder.

“Is that Fuku-chan?”

“Yes, Ryo-Ohki-chan brought her here.”

“She was probably lonely because you left her with him... Come here, Fuku-chan.”

She came to Tsukiko who picked her up and petted her. “Miah?”

“Nice to meet you, I am Tsukiko. Kiriko's mother” Fuku smiled.

“..... Oh Fuku-chan, did you come here all by yourself” Kiriko came out from the entrance with a big bag. Apparently, she seemed to be leaving.

“She came with Ryo; it seems she got lonely.”

“Oh Kiriko, are you going out already? You should at least stay for breakfast.”

“The shop is busy already and I want to help out. Besides I want to taste the food I made, and I want to do it on an empty stomach.” Kiriko said. “Well then... I'm off.”

“Are you going to walk? I can get the car?”

“No thanks... Ms. Kasumi's husband is going to need that.”

Kasumi was Taro’s mother. Her husband had stayed overnight in the village and needed the car to get to work.

“I'm sure he won't mind... but suit yourself... I'll get to making breakfast then.” Tsukiko went into the house with Fuku.

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“Gee! Mother, you didn't have to hit me so hard.” Kai who fainted last night finally woke up this morning. He hadn't fainted for a long time. He had just gone back to sleep once he got up. However, his head still hurt and so he was complaining to Tsukiko while having breakfast.

“Then don't say stupid things!” Tsukiko said.

“So ... Seina, are you going take me with you to your home? I'm ready to go any time you are!”

“Didn't you just hear me?!” Tsukiko glared at Kai.

“Sorry Kai. I can't introduce you to them, so if you want to go, please go yourself. Either way, I can't go towards the shop. It would interfere with profits.”

“Well then if you'll excuse me ... ...”

“Seina is saying that it's impossible! Don't go out to try stupid things, I need your help here at home today!”

“Hey, little one” Suddenly Kai picked Fuku up by the foot. “Your owner is a jerk! He won't even listen to his best friend's request ...”

“Miah?” Fuku was confused.

“That's right, all I asked Seina for was to meet his rockin’ bodied band of older ladies and he won't even help me do it!”

Tsukiko beat Kai unconscious with her shoe again.

“Two more years until Kai turns 18 ... Honestly... I'm not confident that I won't kill this child by then,” Tsukiko said.

“Are you alright Aunt Tsukiko?”

“I'm just kidding ... For now...” Tsukiko said.

“Honestly, I think he would fit right in with my friends at the academy.” Seina said.

“Please don't tell me you've become like him too?”

“No... That would be bad... It's rude to think of the people who work so hard to help me in such a way.”

“… Oh, I see...” Tsukiko felt a little sorry for the girls. (Damn it... he must feel the same way about me, why did Kuisu-sama have to go stirring the pot!) Tsukiko strongly hoped that her issues with Seina would be resolved as soon as possible.

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In the supermarket the official introduction of Kiriko and the others was done with the morning shift employees.

“Is this a joke? Those girls are too pretty to be working at a place like this.” A female employee, Aiko, 24 years old, said in front of the mirror in the bathroom complained to her colleague, Umeko, 51 years old.

“Well, it can't be helped ... Even pretty girls got to work.”

“Oh yeah, I know, I'm just surprised and jealous.” The Older Umeko smiled coyly at the angry Aiko. For Umeko she was like a daughter.

“Don't be mad at them, be mad at the men gawking over them!”

“Well luckily they’re only here for a few days, the President said that they're short-term assistance ...” Umeko looked around and began to whisper loudly. “I heard that they all have special feelings for the son of the President.”

“R-really!? That's weird, he's still just in high school, isn't he?” Aiko said surprised.

“Oh, I see, you come from outside the prefecture ... ... I guess no one has told you... He's supposed to cause bad luck right ... Like hanging around him causes things to go wrong which cause potentially life ending danger right? I hear he's cursed.”

“Huh... Cursed? Really?” Aiko was puzzled.

“It's no lie, but he is a really nice guy. But his bad luck, well it causes him to get injuries all the time, and I mean big injuries like going to hospital many times a year, other people also get caught in it.”

“So, the people around here, they must avoid him …”

“This shop was a small grocery store a year ago, but as soon as he left home, it's gotten bigger and bigger.”

“What, is it ... ... Really? It's that serious?”

“Really truly, it's that serious!” Umeko nodded with a serious face.

“That's why the wife of the President is so happy now. She's happy he has so many non-family members who accept him.”

“I see... They must be some amazing people.”

“Well, their skills aren't that shabby ... And they don't look that bad either ... Uhuhuh ... Today's morning rush seems a bit odd don't you think?

“Really, I thought so too, I'm glad it's not just me.”

“Anyways... enough chat let's get to work!” Umeko left pulling Aiko out with her.

Chapter Fourteen: Provocation

“How do we keep on missing!” a certain commander of a certain fleet said in a video. “How is this happening?” She kept firing at a pirate fleet and kept missing against all odds.

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The Board of Directors of the Academy watched the footage while wrapped in a secret wall with Airi and Mikami giving the report.

“They encountered this fleet and despite the immense odds against it, and the thousands of opportunities they took that should have destroyed them, our fleet was annihilated.”

“Indeed ... ... And the other ships escaped unscathed?”

“Yes.”

“... It's definitely an unusual situation, but the military should be able to take care of it. I see no reason to send Seina!” Airi said angrily.

“From the level of anomaly experienced and the other reports of damage we've received from various departments, I think it's best to do that, so we don't make this thing look like it's any bigger of a problem than necessary.”

“He isn't even supposed to be on call right now, especially not for something like that, and don't forget he’s still just a student! And he's finally getting to see his parents for the first time in a year. How can you even think about calling him back!?”

“Also, the Kamidake is still under construction!”

“Well, it's Washu-sama, if anyone can rush something out quickly it's her!”

Airi couldn't argue with that.

“I had hoped I would be the one to announce Washu's survival to all of you, but, hoho well... I see you already know.” Mikami said.

It had already caused a big uproar to those in elite positions.

“I will not let you rush her masterpiece. Don't make me go on vacation for the next ten years!” Airi said.

“If you do that, everyone will hate you again.”

“I am not afraid of being hated, so you better let that philosopher do her work!”

No philosopher would ever consider the first release of their work to be the final version, once something is put into use the changes and upgrades that can be made naturally spur a philosopher to make valuable improvements.

“Well, that might not be a bad idea. If we look at the example battle with the fleet, it's also a fact that the indirect hull damage rate was abnormally high due to multiple causes such as defects, lack of maintenance, and precious accidents. All of which caused more damage than usual when hit by a direct attack.”

“Also, there were human errors... But as you know, this whole situation is obviously due to a bias in probability. So that's why I want to make sure the Kamidake is in the best condition possible. We also need to have as much info on the fleet before sending them in there, unless you just want them to fail... You don't want that do you?”

“Certainly not, I guess there is enough time to wait for her to do a bit more work, don't you think?”

“Well, I suppose, I'll allow it.”

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“Airi seems to have everything handled for us... ... But I swear that isn't their usual meeting location, is it?” Washu asked Seto over a video chat.

“No, that's the First Fleet Commander's home.”

“Oh, the First Fleet Commander that I heard was assassinated by you, Seto?”

The First Fleet Commander was a beautiful woman who was shrouded in mourning clothes, indicating that she took a vow as a wife that when her husband passed away she would never marry again. And because she wore mourning clothes, there was no one who knew her face or its features. No one knew, but in Jurai she was overwhelmingly popular due to her competence and neat atmosphere.

However, a long time had passed since a certain event, in which she had ceased to make any appearances at all. There were rumors saying that she had been assassinated by Seto, who was jealous of her popularity.

* * * **Translators’ note: Her ship was also blown up in battle according to old remarks Kajishima made about her. * * ***

“Shit, uhm... Sooo... ... ... When will the maintenance on Kamidake be done?” Seto brushed off Washu's question with a smile.

“Hmmm... So, speaking as Seto Kamiki Jurai, do you want to the Kamidake to try to take out that experimental fleet?”

“The damage they're causing keeps on coming and I want to strike them down before this problem gets any bigger.”

“Certainly... It's like what happened to them with Seina, I can understand how bad of an idea it would be to leave it alone. You thought you'd be the only one able use a probability bias like Seina's ... ... How do you feel now that the tables have turned?”

“Airi isn't afraid, why should I be?”

“Ahahahaha ~ ~ aaaaahahahahaha!” Washu unexpectedly burst out laughing.

“I saw the results of the Daedalus' analysis, it's pretty troubling, isn't it?”

“Hmm, yes. The Shank Guild created a ship that destroyed a 3rd generation ship, didn't they? Who knows what they could have done? If properly replicating Ryoko's jewels was possible.”

“I really shouldn't have sealed my memories. Jurai did an inspection of those jewels a long time ago, right?” About 20,000 years ago when Washu came to the Royal Academy.

“Yeah. The data from that was carelessly disposed of, but ... But to keep this short, there replicas are junk. So, there's is no real problem ... ...”

“It may be junk but when it is used to power a general level ship, its best to use it as a general energy source, that's how the Daedalus gets its overwhelming power.”

“So, you want to get rid of this movement to manipulate probability before they get to incorporating the replicas into their ships?”

Even with Seina and the Kamidake, there was no doubt that the pirates would be a threat if they could mass produce that.

“Hmm ... ... well in that case, the maintenance of the Kamidake will be finished tomorrow morning.”

“Oh, please give it a lot of thought. Most of us know that the data from the Kamidake is like a mountain of treasure, so we know how you feel ... ... We know it will take you some time to think about this.”

“Are you thinking about incorporating a royal tree? You must be scared.”

“You made the Kamidake to support that from the beginning, didn't you? I remember you said it was made from a concept different from Ryo-Ohki, wasn't it?”

“If you're going to incorporate anything, a first generation is ideal, but we need at least a second generation.”

“It's impossible for us to know what generation will be acquired ... ...” Any contract with the tree's required the trees' will. However …

“I would like to try that as well. It's a big opportunity. I want to do as much as I can here.” Washu broke off communications pleased.

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“Oh, where is Ringo?” At lunch time, Aiko, an office worker for the Yamada grocery shop noticed she was missing.

“She decided not to take her break so she could work, she is a really serious person.”

Aiko went and made some tea and took her some food. In the office where Ringo was working the only sound you could hear was Ringo typing.

She was busy at work, mostly thinking the math over in her head because she could do the math faster mentally then she could input it into a computer.

“Ms. Ringo, would you like a cup of tea?”

“Thank you, but why did you bring me tea? Is there something you would like to ask me?” Ringo stopped working and smiled at Aiko.

“Yes, I wanted to ask you about Seina. I hear when he used to live here, people treated him like he was cursed … I'm sorry to hear that.”

“There is nothing to apologize for.”

“Still, it's a pitiful thing to be hated for something like that, but ... ... I don't think I can blame those people, it's dangerous to be around him. But he doesn't seem like bad kid.”

“Well, he's not, but Seina's bad luck has influenced things throughout his everyday life. From what we've recorded, thousands of events seem to be influenced by his luck every day. There are also usually dozens of incidences each day that have been confirmed to be life-threatening.”

“R-really? And he has managed to live this well?”

“Most of them he unconsciously avoids, some of them can't be avoided.”

“He avoids unconsciously ... That's amazing, isn't it?”

“He had to. From the moment of his birth. Seina's bias is inherently difficult for him to live with, but he has many people helping to keep his spirit strong.”

“Well, I know if it were me, I would have probably committed suicide ... But ... Well ... I also think that you're amazing Ringo for dealing with that. I know that I can't say that I'm not scared by it.”

“Well without people like me his spirit would have been crushed long ago.”

“Oh, like Kiriko?”

“Yes, those who have chosen to support Seina, both in public and private.”

“So, does that technically include both of us?”

“Yes, if you'd like, you can consider yourself a small part of it...”

“Wow, I guess I am ... ...”

“The more people who support Seina, the better off he is, so many people are needed to support the burden that he carries.”

“... ... Ha, yeah, but I ... ... Well, how does one prepare for that?”

“You just do it...” She smiled silently. “Did that answer satisfy you?”

“Yes, of course. I'm sorry, I'll let you get back to things.”

“I enjoyed talking to you. Thank you very much.”

“Oh no, the pleasure is all mine. I just hope things go well for Seina.” Aiko cleaned up after her and Ringo and left, just as she did their break ended and the other clerks came back.

*** * * Translators’ note:**

This chapter elaborates on a mystery from the early days of Tenchi, specifically who is the woman in the veil. The text in the CD with a special disk that came with a later doujin says:

The crazy eyebrow woman is Kanemitsu Hirata's wife, previously the commander of the 7th Imperial Defense Fleet (Kanemitsu was leading it while she was on maternity leave.)

The Veil lady is the commander of the 1st Imperial Defense Fleet. Next to her is Seto; and Minaho and Airi from the time they were being sheltered at the Galaxy Academy.

The Commander of the 1st Fleet is wearing a widow's mourning attire. Covering the face indicates that she remains faithful to her late husband and refuses to remarry.

She perished in a decisive battle with the Pirate Guild (caught in the explosion of her Royal Ship, her body was never recovered).

(Note: 皇家の船ご it’s not necessarily a tree ship, it’s a royal fleet ship)

She was extremely popular on Jurai, even to the point of surpassing Seto, so rumors circulated about whether jealous Seto had assassinated her.

This is the cause of my theory that there was a second set of true Tenchi novels that never got written. There is clearly meant to be a novel about Seto's life, her time with Mikami at the academy (mentioned in GXP 10) and the epic war that Jurai had with the Shank Guild, where they finally managed to wipe out most of the Daedalus and the Shank Guild.

I now personally theorize there is also a high likelihood that this story might involve the Balta Guild and possibly tie into Spaceship Aggaruter.

This would explain why both Taiyo and Ryoko's parents were killed by the Shank Guild. If they were searching for Kei Aggaruter and Virginia, it would make sense that it was to procure weapons for a war.

Here's a detail you probably never noticed about Kei. The things that keep her hair in a ponytail... here's an illustration of them separated oh those look familiar...

And there are 3 of them here... An odd choice to show... Although from other drawings you can see there are 4, so... who knows...

BTW, if you've seen Aggaruter, I shouldn't really need to point this out, but Janus is clearly from a species that survived the great pre-prehistoric war started by the bioroids and Tsunami's first round of royal trees that end up in Renza and in Zinv...

Also, it's been confirmed in the doujin that Kei is a cheaper version of the lost ancient technology that is Zero, her sister in a sense, Kei can't do a full copy, she only copy their looks, but Zero copies everything since it's the more expensive model.

My personal theory at the moment is that Commander Balta or Ryoko Balta's father or Ryoko Balta's brother is Taiyo. At the very least I suspect there is a relation. But it's all just a pretty baseless theory.

However, both Kei and Ryoko B can transform into other forms, Ryoko is confirmed to be able to alter her DNA on a cellular level, and both she and Kei have those green forehead decals.

Also, Commander Balta, and Taiyo, have brown eyes and Balta's got black hair... Well, Commander Balta's is grey now, but from Ryoko we can assume it was black...

Aggaruter was said to be 500 years before Tenchi, 200 after Ryoko attacked Jurai, which should line up pretty well with the timeline if you consider that... Yosho took 200 years to call Kanemitsu and see his daughter.

Also, Shank pilots a mecha similar to what I believe was described as their Guilds mecha in Yosho and Kei slit Shanks throat in the unfinished last episode ... Not a part of the theory but something I just realized looking at Aggaruter Ban.

But I'm ranting... Thanks for coming to my TED talk! * * *

Chapter Fifteen: Tenchi's Melancholy

Seina, who finished lunch at Tsukiko's house, headed for Tenchi's house with Fuku. Seina heard that Tenchi was going out to the field from Sasami and so he headed for the field to see him.

“Tenchi-senpai are you working the fields alone today?”

“Miyah!” Ryo-Ohki raised her hand as if Seina was taking attendance.

“Oh, that's right, aren't there usually two people helping you?”

“Thanks to everyone's help yesterday, they can relax for a while.” Tenchi said, but he didn't stop working the fields.

However, he occasionally let out a sigh.

“Senpai, what's wrong?” Seina noticed the situation and asked Tenchi.

“Oh ... No, it's nothing... ... It feels pretty strange to have nothing to do.”

“You planted carrots as far as the eye could see yesterday.”

“It usually takes quite a while for us to do it on our own... So, what did you talk to Aunt Tsukiko about yesterday?”

“What? Nothing, why?”

“Aunt Tsukiko seemed a little off when I saw her... Something was wrong... She seemed to be upset ...”

“Oh, Kai told me that Dai came home.” Even though he was talking to Tenchi, it was still hard for Seina to talk about Tsukiko.

“Oh, that's right ... Dai was there earlier.”

“Has anyone in the village ever told you anything about Dai-san? Like how he and Tsukiko got together?” Seina didn't know a lot about Tsukiko's past. The most he had learned about her past was that she was friends with Miki's father at the academy a long time ago.

“Hey... Come on~~~. You can tell me ...”

“Well ... Whenever Kai used to ask her about him, she would always take off her shoe and start beating him with it and tell him not to bring up such things. It was a little worrisome to be honest ... ...”

“But if Kai goes to space, contact with Dai will be inevitable. Maybe Dai was there to get familiar with Kai in case that happened.”

“... ... Oh... That makes sense, hey umh... Seina... I know something, but if anyone asks, you didn't hear it from me, okay?”

“Of course! I'll never tell anyone!”

“Well ... ... I don't know all the details, but after Kiriko's father, Tsukiko's husband passed away, she met Mr. Dai, but at that time it seems that he wasn't such a weird person. He was more serious, a normal person ... ...”

“Ha ha ha! Senpai, are you sure about that?” Seina rarely suspected the things Tenchi said of being lies.

“When I heard that, I said the same thing. But if that wasn't true, how else would you explain things with them? They're not married, but they had Kai.”

At the time it must have seemed like a reasonable relationship.

“Well maybe he cheated on her, or maybe he forced himself on her but ... ...”

“Well ... ... But Dai-san is not the type to cheat, neither is he a person who would do an abominable thing like that, and Tsukiko could easily beat the crap out of him if he even tried.

“If he had done something like that, I doubt Mr. Dai would ever be allowed to see Kai.”

On the contrary, if he did such a thing, Tsukiko would probably have murdered him, or at the very least he'd be in jail. And Tsukiko was not the type to get drunk and have sex with strangers either, so that probably wasn't it.

“At that time Dai-san was having a lot of private troubles, he seems to have been terribly troubled, and from what I've heard he was pretty neurotic and suicidal.”

“... ... In other words, you think their relationship is troubled because he's crazy now?”

“Well, more like I think he was serious young man who was kind to Tsukiko when she was going through a difficult time... That's the best guess I can come up with... Sounds plausible right?”

“It's not too big of a stretch ... ... but you might be cutting it a bit too close.”

If a young man who was once serious and quiet become neurotic and crazy the next day, it made sense that he would seem like a cute kitten turned into a cockroach to Tsukiko.

“The people who told me that seemed to think that he was faking it. Whatever happened, Tsukiko must have liked him at one time because he is Kai's father, it's hard for any of them to accept that fact though.”

“That sounds absolutely impossible!” Seina always thought that Tsukiko and Dai never made any sense and Kai agreed.

“—— Maybe she was possessed at the time?” Kai used to say.

“Speaking of Dai, Seina... Do you know about the Tennan family?”

“Yes, of course, I know.”

“I heard Dai-san is from that family.”

“Wow! ... ... I believe it.”

The Tennan's were always treated specially, they were a family that treated the law like a joke.

“I hear they're pretty famous ...”

“My teacher at the academy is a member of the Tennan family ... I didn't realize they were so famous... ... I should ask Amane ... ... On second thought... I better not... She might get angry...”

“Yeah ... As I understand it, Dai is pretty much just like one would expect of the other Tennans.”

“Oh, I see, thank you very much for that information senpai.”

Up to that point, Seina had never encountered Dai in space. But he didn't know what would happen in the future. If Kai went into space, the chances would be much higher. He didn't dislike Dai, but honestly, he just wanted to avoid having any contact beyond what was necessary with the Tennan family. Seiryo alone was troublesome enough, he didn't want to have to deal with anyone else cut from the same cloth.

“Miyah!” At that time, Ryo-Ohki who found Sasami with Fuku raised her hands and she ran to hug them.

“Well, I know we didn't do much but let's call it a day.” Tenchi put his hoe on the ground and walked off.

Tenchi and Seina finished bathing after finishing dinner, they left Fuku with Ryo-Ohki and Sasami and headed to Tenchi's room on the third floor. It was too early time to go to bed yet, but they laid down a futon and relaxed in some comfortable sleepwear.

“... ... Tenchi senpai, wasn't there something you wanted to talk about?” Seina broke the silence between them and a conversation between the two started.

“Well, uhm eeeeeehhhh ... ... Yeah.” Tenchi turned his faced down and looked puzzled. He seemed to be lost as to whether or not to talk.

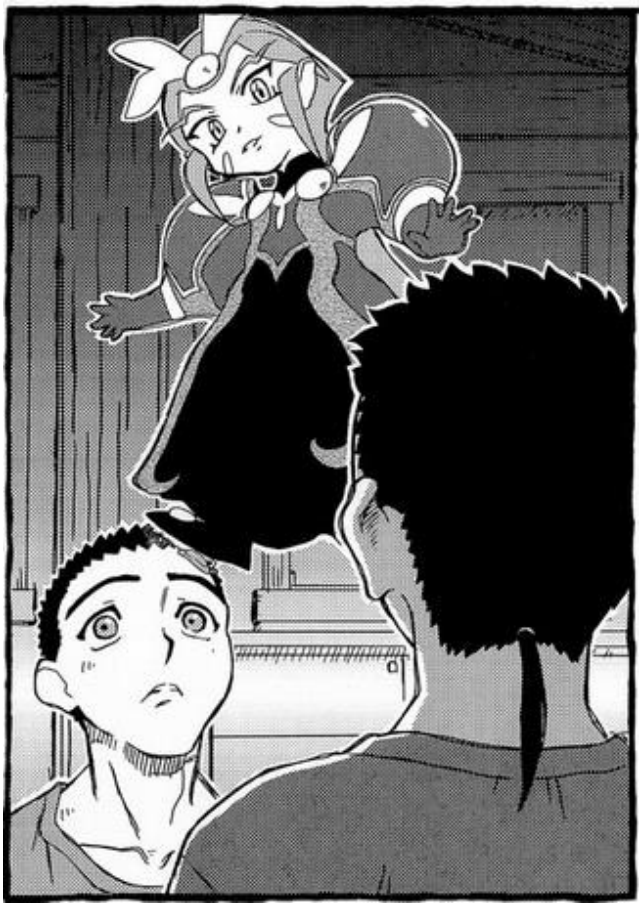
“It sounds hard to say ... ... Maybe it's about me?”

“Why do you think that?” Seina was good at reading people with this sort of thing.

“Tenchi-senpai ... ... You have the same look on your face as when Aunt Kiyone passed away. You look sad and it looks to me like you’re suffering ...”

“!! ..... Ok, I have such a face.” Tenchi lifted his eyes and looked up at Seina's face. He made a calm, yet resolute expression. Tenchi had made up his mind to tell Seina. “Well then, do you have a moment to listen?”

Seina quietly nodded. This seemed like a heavy thing to talk about, Seina was ready to accept it.



“..... Tokimi, are you there?” Tenchi spoke out loud to nowhere in particular as if he was delivering a soliloquy. A girl like a small doll appeared floating in front of Seina's eyes.

“I exist in all dimensions, space, and time, have you forgotten, Tenchi Masaki?”

“..... um, what is that .....??”

Seina wasn't that surprised by things like this anymore. Although this seemed to be more of a strange entity rather than a broadcasted image. Either way, he was rather confused by the figure that didn't fit with the serious tone Tenchi was using.

“Actually, she is ... ...”

“Oh wait, Tenchi Masaki. Before I talk about this kind of thing, I need to create a suitable stage...”

Tokimi silenced Tenchi. She raised her hand up high and suddenly, “Oh!”

The universe spread out under Seina's feet. It covered the whole room in a blink of an eye. Due to his Bio-Enhancement, Seina had a strong resistance to hypnosis and drugs. His senses told him that this was not a hallucination. No, it was something else ... ...

– – – This is real!

Seina’s finely honed instincts shouted. His sense for danger judged this situation as abnormal.

“Alright! Here we go! Do you perceive this as real?” He heard Tokimi's voice, but it was not the voice of a child like earlier, it was the voice of a mature adult. Moreover, the sound rippled through all of space, he couldn't identify the source of the sound. But when he looked up ... ...,

“Hey!”

Tokimi appeared as an adult of infinite size. She looked down at Seina gracefully. It was as if she covered the whole of space above him. The things he felt were not easy feelings to describe such as fear or despair. It was more like the instinctual feeling of awe from seeing a true god.

“Woah! .....” Seina stopped. He felt his consciousness trying to be swallowed into the abyss and swallowed the scream that he was about to let loose. Sweat spurted from his whole body, he was exhausted from just looking closely at Tokimi's appearance. Seina breathed heavily and slowly regained his composure. (Oh, I got sweaty again, I'm going to have to take a bath again ..... !?) Seina, who for some reason noticed himself thinking such a stupid thing, had become unencumbered by his overwhelmed feelings in that moment.

“Ho, I see.” Tokimi looked at Seina and smiled satisfactorily. “Tenchi Masaki. Tell him everything, this guy has a spirit that is strong enough to handle it.”

“Um ... ... Before we do that can you explain this situation ...?” For now, he seemed to be in outer space. However, the sense of scale was too large for it to be that.

“Oh Seina Yamada, I know what you are thinking. You are just outside of the three-dimensional universe you live in, here is your galaxy.”

“What!?” A galaxy about 30 centimeters in size was floating in front of Seina. “Wow!” Seina stiffened up so he wouldn't touch it on accident he stopped breathing so he didn't accidentally move.

“The atoms that make you up won't affect the various stars of the galaxy.”

“Well, even if you say that I ...!!”

The galaxy suddenly moved away from Seina, or rather Seina moved from where it was, but in the distance the large galaxy remained shining like a bubble. If this was really the universe, at that moment, how many billion light years would he have just been moved?

“I thought it would be easier to show you by contrasting you with an existing object. To help show how large the existence that is Tenchi Masaki is compared to the size of all the rest of existence.”

“Existence? Size?”

“To him it would look like this.” Tokimi said, Seina then saw Tenchi.

“Seina, what did you think of me when we competed to run up to the shrine?”

“Oh that ... ... I figured you also had undergone Bio-Enhancement ...”

“Do you know what this is?” Three thin film-like objects appeared before Tenchi.

“Are those what I think they are?”

“Have you ever heard of Light Hawk Wings?”

“The ones that the royal ships create? Is that what you are!? How is Tenchi senpai creating them?” In front of Seina’s eyes Tenchi transformed them into a sword, a shield and armor.

“Material transformation of the Light Hawk Wings. Besides Tenchi Masaki, we are the only ones who can do that. It is impossible even for the first generation of Royal Trees.”

“Somehow, when we came into existence the meaning of our existence was understood .....”

Seina looked up at Tokimi, behind her he saw what looked two people’s shadows. He was concerned about what they were but felt he should listen first.

“Who the hell is Tokimi? Is Tenchi-senpai doing this because of you?”

“Yes, we are called the 3 Top Gods of Creation. As our name suggests, we are the ones located at the top of every dimension that exists.

“Top Gods ... .”

“Top Gods is just a mere name, they have the power of omniscience, but they are just high-level living organisms, there is no need to worship them or give them a title such as God.”

“Oh, is that so?” He didn't how to deal with having an omniscient creature in front of him. He decided not to think about it any deeper.

“Can you see something like a figure behind me?”

“It would be better for you to explain why Tenchi has become such a presence.”

—— Before I talk about this kind of thing, I need to create a suitable stage. (……oh!) At that time, Seina understood the meaning of the word Tokimi said.

(Oh, I see, before this I couldn't believe that Tokimi was anything like that or even Tenchi Senpai) If he had heard this from Tenchi's mouth in his room with a small doll telling him this, he wouldn't have believed him.

(So that's why they're showing it to me this way ... ...) He wiped a large amount of sweat dripping down his face with his hand and wiped it on the hem of his sleepwear.

“As our name suggests there are three of us at the top of the universe, one of us is the one you know as Washu Hakubi, the other is known as the founder of the royal trees, Tsunami. We three were the only things that existed here originally.

“I understand the founder of the Imperial Trees being one of you, but you’re saying Washu is also something like God?”

“Her power as a god remains here in the shadow behind me. Although a little power came with her and exists in the 3rd dimension. Why did we do such thing? Well, that's why we exist.”

“Why you exist? ..... What is your purpose?”

“From the moment we existed, we had the power of omnipotence, but at the same time there was a contradiction. It was traumatically upsetting; we knew there was a further dimension

above the top dimension in which we exist. But our omniscience was denying proof of the existence of that dimension."

"It both existed and was impossible to exist ... ... that caused you to be traumatically upset? But why did such a thing happen?"

"We tried to investigate it, we spent an infinite amount of time in trial and error, what Sister Washu calls the "thinker's way" of thinking. But we could not find the failure in our omniscience and omnipotence. So, I tried again, and again, through endless hours of trial and error, but the result was the same."

"This story is hard for me to take in... ... When everything looks like I'm drunk." Seina could not keep up with the sense of scale. He felt suddenly like he stood on top of a tower without a safety harness.

"We created a sub-dimension and set a breakaway line from the top dimension. The story is very similar to the stories that appear in many religions. Originally those born there lacked most abilities. However, if someone could break through it and reach the top dimension ... ..."

"So, you created reality to find a clue to the top dimension?"

"Yes, but when we did that there was an unprecedented change in us. Although we were originally a Trinity, our sister Washu let go of her power and memory as a Top God and went to live there as a human being. She began seeking knowledge from the beginning to see if there really was a contradiction. My sister Tsunami entered the 3rd dimension with as much power as possible and searched for new possibilities through the inheritance of her blood. And, as we originally planned at the beginning of the experiment, I set out to disrupt the normal harmony of the dimension, I caused irregularities to look for a possibility."

"The result was Tenchi senpai?"

"No. There was another person, Z."

"What happened to him?"

"He lost his life in pursuit of the answer. He did not want to let us experiment with those who possessed the same potential as himself. He hoped to be the only absolute one. He fought against Tenchi Masaki but was killed. And in the original timeline of those fights Tenchi Masaki's presence started to emerge ... ... Do you still remember when you were slashed by Z, Tenchi Masaki?"

"Oh ... Yeah ... ... I remember I died trying to protect Ryoko ... But after that, when I died, I only remember being spoken to by someone ..."

Tenchi explored his memory to desperately remember that time. But he could not remember anything but the intense pain he felt at that time.

“He was thrown into the upper dimension by being slashed in half by Z. He transformed the substance of Light Hawk Wings and formed a body from something like a cell and began to emerge as an existence into the next dimension. His emergence, which should have occurred as a result of spiritual maturation, happened by force, so we had to suppress Tenchi's emergence with all our power, which was the cause of his pain.”

The heavy pressure that came out of him could have destroyed the universe.

“So, it's dangerous if he doesn't mentally mature?”

“Seina Yamada. What do you think of this situation? What did you think when you saw me in this figure?”

“No, I understand.” Seina remembered his feeling of having goose bumps all over his body. Even remembering it caused a cold sweat throughout his body.

Tenchi distorted his expression as well as Seina.

“I am now synchronized with the memories of Seina Yamada, so you will have some sense of what it feels like to reach a higher dimension.”

“Well ... ... Yes, certainly ..... But why do I remember talking to someone after that?”

“Our experiments produce a lot of distortion, and as a result, there is a Singularity in the form of a person to balance those reactions. She is the mother of Ms. Tsunami's three-dimensional body, Sasami. Although she is stable now, after 100,000 years she suddenly loses the balance in her spirit and starts to go out of control.”

“Ms. Misaki!”

“After 100,000 years??” Seina and Tenchi raised their voices at the same time.

“You exist in every dimension, every time axis, but Misaki going out of control after 100 thousand years is only one possibility.”

“... Senpai, do you understand what she means by that?”

“Don't ask me ... ...”

Even if they recognized the timescale, it was too big. Their thoughts couldn't get beyond thinking about it.

“The future is determined by the choices and behaviors both conscious and unconscious of many creatures’ existences. Because of that, the time axis of the future is chaotic with many possibilities undetermined. To put it in an easy-to-understand way, it is like Kai Masaki's Adult choose your route type adventure game.”

“What the heck?” Seina and Tenchi seemed to be pulled out of their emersion.

“For something that is a big deal, it's kind of disgusting that an omniscient god is describing it using hentai games as an example.”

“Seina Yamada. I am merely choosing the best way to communicate this information.”

Tokimi was omniscient any way you put it. It wasn't like she usually had to explain things to people or vice versa.

“In other words, the endings change depending on our choices, but there are other endings in the game ... is that what it's like?”

“Misaki from hundreds of thousands of years felt hostility towards us and attacked Tenchi Masaki, who was there at the same time on the same time axis, he came to stop her. That is the one who helped the present timeline's Tenchi Masaki make it through the emergence.”

“So, that's why... Tenchi-senpai, 100,000 years later, helped Tenchi-senpai now?”

“That Tenchi Masaki was only a possibility though because that part of future had not yet been confirmed. There was also temporary phenomenon that occurred where he first jumped to the point and time on the axis with Noike when she was still the female half of Kagato like she was originally.”

“So, in the end, the emergence was actually stopped by the current Tenchi-sempai?”

“Yes, and now his growth continues.”

“What happened to the man named Z?”

“That man lost to Tenchi Masaki, and his possibility disappeared ... So, I restored him and the ones of his I was holding to live his life ... As an ordinary human being, now he lives at his home with his parents.” Tokimi when talking about that was sad about something.

Seina wondered whether he could keep on talking but he decided his questions were answered for now.

“Why did you do that ... ... What if he comes back again to attack ...”?

“He cannot use his power anymore, because we cannot recreate people's possibilities when we reincarnate them, so in a way he was rushing our experiment ... So ... Now that you know that Tenchi Masaki, do you hate us?”

“Huh!?”

Tokimi's words were surprising, Seina looked at Tenchi who was silent and depressed.

“All of the causes of your suffering are because of us ... But ...”

“It's more than that! More than that... I also blame my heart's weakness... He was going to... Ryoko ... And so I ... And so I!” The face of Tenchi distorted in pain at Tokimi's words.

“I'm sorry I have drawn you into this infinite prison ...!”

“Infinite prison!? Isn't that a bit ... ... Of a rough way to put it? What if he likes it?” Seina’s voice was calm.

“... After this ability appeared, I had a physical examination done by Washu, she couldn't see any physical abnormality or change ... But ... ... My body is no longer aging.”

“But if you don't age you won't die right? Your true existence is already extraordinarily large at this stage. It's larger than the galaxy, so that doesn't surprise me, but ...”

“He's immature not immortal. Seina Yamada. It is possible to kill him if he is destroyed at his existing size.”

“So! And who's able to do that!? You're not able to do that, so isn't it almost as good as immortality?”

It was hard to imagine a person destroying something that was the size of millions of light years in scale.

“There are some high-dimensional creatures in Zara that can, so can a first-generation Royal Tree, and Seina's Yamada Kamidake ... ... And something which Seina Yamada could potentially take control of in the future could also do it.”

*** * * Translators’ note: 高位次元生命体ならばザラに居る。WTF is a Zara. Also, in this moment Tokimi saw ZINV. * * ***

“However, we are not allowed to carry out any act that would end up harming Tenchi Masaki.”

“... .... Then, isn't that immortality?”

It was impossible for someone to do things that the omniscient shoguns of the universe wouldn't allow.

“Seina, you don't know the seriousness of this! You too no longer aging because of me!” Tenchi said in an upset voice that was very unusual for Seina to hear.

“Me too?”

“... ... Sorry, I'm trying to be as clam as you about this ... ... But, but I...”

“Let's talk about it later.”

“No, I must ... ... I have to talk about it now.” Tenchi breathed deeply and slowly, to help settle his nerves. “Even Tokimi and her sisters who are top Gods seem to be experiencing a slight deterioration. Even when this universe is dead and gone, I will keep living forever. Even when Tokimi is gone. Even if all things around me are gone, I will stay here forever.”

If he existed in the absence of anything ... What kind of condition would he be in? Tenchi had only fear of this thing which he couldn't understand.

“Is that what you mean by an infinite prison ...?”

“What did you think Seina when you heard about Bio-Enhancement? What did you think about having a lifespan of 2,000 years?”

“... ... I certainly thought that I was different from other Earthlings already ..... But in space it was commonplace, everyone around me had it. So, it really no longer mattered when I remembered that.”

“I am also like that but ... I'm doomed to this infinite prison ... ... If I wasn't alone, I'd probably feel that way too but I'm not ... There's no way ...”

“No way ... why?”

“My power is preventing everyone close to me from aging. Ryoko, Ayeka, Sasami and Noike, Mihoshi, Ryo-Ohki, Washu-chan and you too Seina!” Tenchi said as he squeezed the words out with a trembling voice.

“Tenchi-senpai's power is making me not age ...?”

“Although I don't want to apologize for doing what I did, I have no choice but to say I'm sorry ... I'm really sorry ...” It was a painful confession. It was the heaviest confession in the world.

“Infinite? ... Oh yeah! That sounds familiar, doesn't it?”

“Seina, what are you saying?” Tenchi could not hide his surprise at Seina's reaction. No, he could not understand.

“An infinite prison ... ... If I hadn't met Kiriko-san or you, Tenchi-senpai, I think that's where I would have been.”

“Ah!”

“Of course, it wouldn't have been really infinite, but I understand your feelings Tenchi-senpai. I've felt the fear of being alone forever and the feeling of wanting someone to help me. So, I would like to go with you into infinity together, like you did for me senpai.” Seina looked straight ahead as he said this to Tenchi's with a heavy tone.

“Seina you ... ... Your feelings towards this are terribly pleasing ... ... But even Tokimi's power is unable to help me escape from this prison.” Tenchi desperately wanted to leave things as they were. Tenchi was happy, but he was crying in his mind.

“Even if that's the case!”

“I am not planning to kill the possibility of him being born as a higher entity, neither are my sisters Washu and Tsunami - if it's awful, then that's how it shall have to be. I do not mind being hurt. I can't resist it ... ... I can't do it.” They had lived an infinite time with Tokimi solely to create this possibility.

Tenchi who defeated Z and saw Tokimi's bitterness when Z lost to him didn't feel like blaming her.

“Then let's go. Let's go the endless infinity!” Seina said quickly.

“Seina Yamada, your heart is strong. I'm sure you could easily endure living an infinite time. Don't worry Tenchi, there is hope at the end of infinity.”

“Hope?”

“Tenchi Masaki, when we gathered for the first time at the Masaki family home, do you remember what Ryoko said?”

“... ... What if Tokimi's existence was an experiment of the people in a higher dimension? ... ...”

“An existence even higher? That's doing the same experiment as Tokimi's experiment!”

“Because there was a contradiction shared between us, that possibility cannot be denied.” However, that conclusion was not the one that Tokimi was able accept on its own. Their omniscience was also denying it. However, it was the encounter with the other Tenchi that left her flexible enough to say that it was a possibility.

“If we are experiments of those in the upper dimension, Tenchi Masaki may be a natural born person there. Although, of course, it may just be more of the same thing. But, at the very least, it would be solved from our perspective. That is the only way a possibility disappearance would be allowed.” Tokimi’s purpose was to create an existence that went above the top dimension. If Tenchi reached there, Tokimi's role would end. It would be no longer necessary to protect Tenchi.

“Beyond the limit of infinity ... That seems terribly frightening. Tokimi, you've had an infinite time to live, what kind of feeling is it to live in infinity?” Seina was fairly cheerful and as he asked Tokimi.

“It passes, like a quick moment.”

“I kind of got that impression.”

“For a bug who is born in the morning and dies in the evening, Seina's life is almost infinite from perspective. The bug doesn't recognize his life as short, so if one lived indefinitely Seina didn't think they would see it as that long.”

“Because you have such a short life, I hear that people live quite hard before their death, so what does that feel like?”

“Some choose to live for a short time because they are vain, or lazy, or are content with living a short life. There are people who find their life meaningful and want to live forever ... ... The main thing that changes how you see it is your own will to go on. From my perspective Tenchi, there is no need to be afraid of an infinite world, but there are people who are always beside me ... ... So I don't think I am qualified to say that to you.”

“... Seina ... Are you really okay? Are you okay with going to the end of infinity with me?” Tenchi asked Seina with a shiver. He was prepared to accept Seina’s answer.

“Yes, of course. I am a bit excited actually.”

“Excited?”

“To be able to see the end of the universe ... ... It seems like a dream to be able to go anywhere.”

Of course, even though Seina was absolutely confident, Tenchi didn't know what would happen if it actually came to that time, but at least there was no more anxiety in his mind for now.

“... ... ... You sure are strong.”

“Thanks to you Tenchi-senpai.”

“ ... ... If you say so.” Tenchi closed his eyes, accepted everything and smiled.

“Miah!”

Tenchi was suddenly brought back to reality by Ryo-Ohki and Fuku’s meows. The outer space that was supposed to be there had disappeared and they had returned to Tenchi's room.

“Ryo-Ohki? Fuku-chan?”

Ryo-Ohki went to Tenchi and Fuku went to Seina.

“Both of us wanted to give Tenchi-chan and Seina-chan a break.”

“Sasami-chan!? ... ... Washu-chan!”

At the entrance of Tenchi's room, Sasami and Washu who they had seen behind Tokimi just moments earlier were standing there watching them with a smile. Washu confirmed that Tenchi recognized her as herself, she gently raised her hand and greeted him then she went downstairs quickly and gently.

“Miah!” A smile came naturally to the faces of Tenchi and Seina as they looked at Ryo-Ohki and Fuku.

“Good night.”

Tenchi and Seina said to their partners. Ryo-Ohki and Fuku moved satisfactorily towards Sasami, jumped to stand on both of her shoulders. Before they knew it Chibi Tokimi was sitting on top of Sasami's head.

"Goodnight, Tenchi-oniichan, Seina-oniichan" Sasami left the room with a bounce in her step.

"... ... Thank you, Sasami-chan." Tenchi called to Sasami, she turned back to him.

"To say thank you is my job." Sasami laughed to herself and then she went down the stairs making light footsteps.

Chapter Sixteen: The Masaki Families Nostalgia

*** * * Translators' note: Just a heads up, I super abridged this chapter in parts. * * ***

Kiriko suddenly received an emergency call. "Yes, this is Kiriko Masaki..." Kiriko listened to the other side of the line for a while. Her expression tightened and then she hung up.

"That was Airi, we've been given a return order. The deadline is 1200 at 0809."

"What! To do that we will have to leave tomorrow."

"If we use the Kamidake's special hyperspace navigation abilities, we can make it while leaving the day after tomorrow morning."

"Well, that's at least a bit better."

"I don't need to return, so please leave the rest of your miscellaneous affairs to me," Ringo said.

"Thank you, Ringo." Kiriko hurried and finished her work preparing for tomorrow. She was working on a manual for making the lunch boxes she had thought up for the store.

"Shall we tell Seina?"

"I think we can wait till tomorrow morning."

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Just about that time, Mihoshi's ship, Yukinojō, had detached from the space station orbiting the moon.

"Thank you for your hard work!"

"You're coming back before next week, right?"

"Oh, are you going already?" Seina's classmates Kenneth and Rajau were talking to Mihoshi.

"Bye byeeeeeeeee." Mihoshi cut off communication after waiting.

"Wow, what a woman!" Kenneth rushed to look out the window at her ship as it went back to Earth.

"What a beautiful woman~~ Ah ... ... I wish she was always here~~ ..."

"Kenneth, will you give it up already? I didn't invite you on this mission with so you could swoon over Mihoshi."

"Even so ... ... The opportunity to meet such a beautiful woman is rare, and she's from the Kuramitsu family."

"Exactly... You don't stand a chance... Now ... What do you want to do for dinner?" Rajau said.

“... ... What do you mean? There's something else here besides the meals set for us?”

“The menu here lets us choose, so what do you want to eat today?”

“Yeah, but we can only choose from the GP-designated menu! They don't carry the junk food I love! And they don't carry the brands I like on an undeveloped planet like this ... “

“Haha! I'm surprised you accepted when I told you I could get you assigned to Earth.”

“...I half thought you were joking though.”

“I guess as Seina's team mates we qualified for it, it's a rare sight, isn't it?” Rajau looked at the Earth. It was a specially protected plant which they couldn't normally come near.

“Even so, it's not like we can go sightseeing... What are we going to do here for the next week?”

“We can watch their television programs!”

“We’re only here for week, it's not like we can follow any of the shows here ... ...”

“Who needs that? We can see protected broadcasts from up here ...”

They could watch programs that were age restricted.

“And at this close range, I guess we’re also close enough monitor the situation on the ground, and they have no visual protections...”

As far as the technology of the universe was concerned, it was easy to see the details of a person on the Earth from the satellite orbit of the moon. With the same tech that the video phones use to pick up the video there, they could also see inside buildings.

“Oh, oh!”

In other words, they could peep in on anyone at any time. Kenneth and Rajau laughed maniacally looking at each other.

“Come on, Kenneth! Let's stock up on nutrition and prepare for tonight!”

Certainly, there was no protection or shielding on the Earth. However, it was about two hours later that they learned they were blocked from accessing that equipment.

“Oh well... It's only a week ...”

Of course, they were being supervised from afar and their instructors had recordings of them trying to do this, but because they were sympathetic from having gone through this in their youth the two were only punished with a warning.

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In the morning, Seina opened his eyes and stretched with a yawn. “Huh .....?” However, something was wrong... Something was clinging to him, it felt like some plump rubber balls ... ...

“Wha...! Woah ahhhh!” Seina's screams echoed all the way to Tenchi's room.

“What's wrong, Seina .....?” Tenchi jumped out of bed and froze up as he saw Seina who was being held like a body pillow by a naked Mihoshi.

Tenchi blushed upon seeing Mihoshi's glamorous appearance, but quickly diverted his eyes and headed for the door.

“Help me senpai! ... Senpai!”

Ignoring Seina's cries for help, Tenchi quickly jumped out of the room.

“Senpaiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii ~~!”

Tenchi's footsteps went downstairs. He was getting someone who could help better.

After a while, Noike came into the room with light steps. “Mihoshi ~ ~ ~!” The gentle Noike, exhibited a rare rage and thrust an unrepentant punch into Mihoshi's forehead. Bong! Mihoshi's grip relaxed a little, a tremor of deep bass echoed in the internal organs of Seina. Noike quickly threw Mihoshi's hands and feet, off of Seina.

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“I'm sorry,” Mihoshi, wearing underwear and clothes from the pile that was scattered all over the corridor, apologized to Seina.

Seina was looking at Mihoshi puzzled... It looked like her tits could fall from her tank top at any moment.

“Don't be sorry! ... Why did this even happen?” Noike yelled at Mihoshi with a face like a teacher scolding a student caught pulling a prank.

“Well, let's see... ... After I said goodbye to the children I was training last night, I came back here. Since Ryoko told me that Seina was coming, I went to see his mother because I thought I would say hello ... “

“Seina-san, I'm sorry this will take quite a while longer, please bear with me.”

“Really?” She talked for half an hour.

To summarize - Before going to greet Seina, she took a bath and took off her clothes, the light in Tenchi's room had recently been changed from a fluorescent light to a miniature light bulb, and so from the light she thought she was in Tenchi's room and she got in bed and begin petting Seina's head and it felt good, so she fell asleep.

“That's the dumbest thing I've heard all year! Apologize to Seina again!”

“I'm sorry!”

“Somehow I understand, she's just like Mitoto.”

“Ahaha yeah... That's right.” Noike who was still angry, laughed.

“Ms. Noike don't you think your being a bit strict with Mihoshi?”

“Well, yes, I am. I have to with Mihoshi. When I was a GP detective before becoming Seto-sama's adopted daughter, I was her police partner, so I'm used to having to do this.”

“I see, that sounds like hard work.”

“It was...” They sighed...

“Well... Breakfast is soon... Let's head downstairs.” Noike brought the futon used by Seina to the veranda to let it air out and they went downstairs.

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“Noike ... ... I heard you talking about Mihoshi's mother, is she really just like Mihoshi?”

“Yes Tenchi-sama, it's like Kiriko and Tsukiko.”

“... I see....”

Seina listened to Noike and Tenchi as they descended to the first floor while nodding in agreement.

“Oh....Seina-chan!” And at that moment, before Seina's eyes a familiar face matched a familiar voice. There was Mitoto standing like she was supposed to be there.

“Ms. Mitoto!”

He knew she had a penchant for ending up in weird places, but never expected to see her here. Mitoto hugged Seina quickly and began to pet his head.

“Oh, is that my mother?”

“Mihoshi! It's been a long time.”

While holding Seina, Mitoto also embraced Mihoshi. Seina was sandwiched between both of their breasts, gradually it became hard for him breathe and he started convulsing.

“Oh my, it seems like Seina is in trouble.” Washu, who was on the side, said. She snuck in and pulled Seina's hands forcefully. Seina, popped out from between the two and breathed like he was out of air.

“Why is Ms. Mitoto here?” Noike rushed to Seina to check on him, she asked Washu while rubbing Seina's back.

“I found her in my laboratory, so I brought her here.”

“Really... ... was she cleaning up?” Noike realized that Washu held a broom behind her.

“Oh!” Mitoto gently reached for the broom. Washu made a wry smile. At the moment when Mitoto's hand would touch the broom, Washu quickly moved the broom.

“My broom~~~!”

“Here, hug Seina instead...” Washu took Seina by the hand and threw him towards Mitoto.

“My broooooooooooooom!” Despite saying that with teary eyes, Mitoto was stroking Seina's head firmly as she held Seina. Seina's crew cut healed the pain in her heart that she felt for her missing broom.

“Oh, is that Mihoshi's mother ... They look so much alike... Why is she cleaning or...? Well, sweeping?” Tenchi asked Noike.

“Ms. Mitoto seems to pop up everywhere when she starts cleaning; sometimes she is found tens of light years away, and sometimes even more. The cause of that is completely unknown and even confined she tends to escape so there's no choice but to pick up her broom to keep her from getting lost.”

“... ... Hmm, that's just what I'd expect from Mihoshi's mother...”

*** * * Translators’ note: I find it weird that Tenchi doesn't seem to recognize Mitoto here. More evidence that the last episode of OVA 3 isn't considered fully cannon? No, I think it's more likely Tenchi doesn't remember someone who popped up in a conversation for like 30 seconds once over a year ago a few minutes before he learned how his mother died. * * ***

“Oh, oops, I forgot!” Noike remembered something and she ran to meet up with Sasami to make breakfast. Seina received a call from Kiriko as Mitoto hugged him.

“Hi, this is Seina ..... mhhmmm, oh, I see...” Seina broke off communication after a few minutes.

“Is that an order to return from Airi?”

“Why do you say that?”

Washu’s words surprised not only Seina but also Tenchi. Tenchi quickly entered the kitchen and began discussing something with Noike.

“Well, I told them that the maintenance of the Kamidake was going to be finished this morning, so I thought that this might happen.”

“Is that so ... ... So did Kamidake have any problems?”

“Thanks to you Seina, I got a lot of valuable data, including all the improvements I needed to do. Operating efficiency is up by about 15 percent and the super high level hyperspatial navigation is now smoother than before. After that I ... “

“Oh! About the Super high level hyperspatial navigation ... ... Why did you put that in if we aren't even supposed to use it normally?

“Oh, do you want me to recite “The dilemma of philosophers”? I thought you would be happy; you act like I gave you measles... There's no clear-cut list of things you're going to need. So, I threw in whatever I could. Some abilities might pop up as you go. You'll never know which ones you might have to use...”

“I see...”

“I put equipment in the Kamidake to collect data, so the more you use it, the more I'll be able to perfect what's in there... And if it turns out you don't use certain things in the future, I might remove them. But, first let's see what you’re going to need.”

“Everyone! Breakfast is ready.” Sasami came out cheerfully with a pot of miso soup.

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“Seina, I heard you received a return order, are you leaving today?”

“Yes, I did ... But I'll leave here tomorrow morning.”

“Oh good, then you'll be here... Seina, come back here for lunch, we will be having a hot pot for lunch.”

“Are you going to be having chicken?” Seina's eyes glittered.

“I'll see if I can get a chicken from Kei ...”

“I've wanted some since I got back to Earth, I'm happy.”

“I’m going to go work the field for a bit.”

“Oh, I'll come with you!” Seina followed after Tenchi

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“Tenchi!” Kei looked into the house from the side of the living room and called out. Next to her was, Kasumi and her grandson Taro.

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Tenchi who was relaxing with Seina in the fields came back to the house. “Did Kasumi and Kei come by yet?”

“Oh, there you are.” Kei handed a big package to Tenchi and waved to Seina.

“*baby squeal*!”

Taro, who was held by Kasumi, looked at Fuku who was playing on the sofa and tried to reach out to grab her, even though it was impossible for him to reach her. Fuku hid behind Ryo-Ohki out of surprise. Ryo-Ohki took a position to shield Fuku. Ryo-Ohki had been abused by Taro before, a phrase that here means she was used as a pacifier and thrown about by her tail.

“*baby squeal!*”

“No, Taro. Aww. Poor kitty... did he scare you?” Kasumi pushed Taro's hands back and smiled to reassure Ryo-Ohki and Fuku.

“It's been a long time, Aunt Kei, Kasumi, Taro seems to have gotten bigger.”

“We missed you Seina. We heard from Kai that you'd come back home with a bunch of pretty ladies.”

“... ... They're my colleagues and people who support me. I would have introduced you to them properly, but we just suddenly got an order to return to space.”

“Then I guess it can't be helped... Well, we can always do it when we see you again.”

“Here you go.” Sasami brought Kei a pot of tea and a glass.

Noike took the box of chicken from Tenchi and went back into the kitchen.

“*baby squeal*”

Tenchi sat on the sofa in the living room holding Ryo-Ohki and Fuku. Taro kept trying to grab them from Kasumi's arm.

“Oh, how cute!” Mitoto came out from the door of Washu’s laboratory and saw Taro. “Tenchi-chan, is this yours ...? ... Hey there cutie pie, what's your name?” Mitoto came up to Taro and petted his head.

“His name is Taro, he's about one year and three months old.”

* * * **Translators’ note: This implies that Taro was like less than a month old in OVA2. * * ***

Kasumi handed Taro to Mitoto. “Awww ~ ~. Cute ~ ~” Mitoto hugged Taro. Her expression was different from usual, Mitoto had the eyes of a calm mother.

“*baby squeal*” Taro also liked Mitoto. “*baby squeal*”

Ryo-Ohki and Fuku were relieved that Taro was hugging Mitoto and had given up on them.

“Thanks Taro, you really saved me.” Washu, who was quietly watching from the gap of the door, muttered. Until a while ago Mitoto had been chasing her because she wanted her to return the broom. (I can finally get back to work) Washu gently closed the door quietly.

“By the way, Tennyo has told me a lot about your adventures Seina.”

“Oh Kasumi, do you know Tennyo-neechan?”

“She is the Masaki’s women's organization manager, naturally I know her. I also know Nobuyuki-sama’s wife Rea too.”

“As for you Seina, unlike Tenchi, you are a pure Earthling, right? I always thought that it would be impossible for you to see her again. So, it makes me very happy to hear stories about your adventures at the Academy.”

“Oh, is that so?” She must have heard the story about how he cried when he met her.

“I also hear about you from my sister ... Although sometimes Noike hears from Kiriko, and I hear about it from her.” Tenchi said.

“Oh ... ... So, then you all know what I've been up to.”

“Of course, we’re all rooting for you!”

“Oh.... thank you!”

Not just Tsukiko's family, but everyone in Masaki village was like a relative to Seina.

“Hey Seina, do you ever have any plans to return home?”

“Well someday ... But for the time being, I'm enjoying working in the decoy section of the GP ...”

“That was a bad way to bring it up Kasumi. What she means to say is a lot of us have returned here after working for a while with the GP. Some of us still do and even have our bases of operation here. Do you think you might ever want to do that?”

“Auntie Kei what do you mean?”

“Well, like I work for the GP too, you know. I'm the director of the Earth Branch Delivery Division.”

“What! Then you're my superior?” Seina rushed up and saluted.

“Ahahaha! No need to do that, a lot of us in Masaki village are.”

“Oh, I didn't know ...”

“Some of us retired and came back, but most of us still keep some position.”

“Field work and keeping chickens are not my real job.”

“Tenchi-chan ... ... Mihoshi and Noike also do housekeeping and farming work on top of their other jobs. It's the same as that ... Masaki's village also has plenty of empty houses. Some are for people when they come home ... So, Seina if you ever decide to come home, would you be interested in basing your life in the Masaki village? We can give you a house.”

“A house? ... ... Here?”

“Well, I know the Kamidake has a living space just like a royal ship, right?”

“Oh, yeah, yeah, it's pretty big, millions of people can live in it actually... ...”

“Then you should keep that for work. I'm not saying you have to permanently settle here to have a house... I just don't want you to forget that you're a child of this village just like the rest of us.”

“Oh!!” Seina was pleased by Kei's words and began to cry. The presence of the royal Tree, Funaho, who kept watch, the people of the Masaki family, including Tenchi. The people in the village of Masaki who were always kind and gentle to him. The scenery of a nostalgic valley. Seina himself had thought of coming back here, this was his hometown … There was no reason to refuse Kei's suggestion.

“I understand .... I'll definitely come back here someday.” Whether it was once in several years, or once in several decades, he was convinced of the fact that this was his hometown, the root of his heart was here.

“Miah,” Fuku glanced casually as she looked up at Seina. She seemed to support Seina's decision. In a sense, Fuku's birthplace was also here.

“Tenchi-sama, we've finished preparing for lunch time.” Noike said.

“Thank you Noike, everyone please stay and join us.”

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The Magistrate of hotpot in the Masaki family was Tenchi. Of course, Noike and Sasami made delicious hotpot too ... But they were unable to do it better than Tenchi. So usually, Tenchi, the head of the household, was the one who did the hotpot cooking.

Tenchi carefully thought about how to arrange the ingredients. Everyone there was silent, watching him. Tenchi was judging the state of the ingredients from the boiling sound of the pot. His concentration created a feeling of tension, and those around kept silent and watched Tenchi work.

“Hah ... ... You cook hotpot exactly like Kiyone.” Kei giggled.

“Kiyone-oneesama was a demon with a hotpot. Nobuyuki could never endure the tension in the room when she made it.”

“That's right.”

“Of course, whenever Nobuyuki was out and about in the village during dinner time, I know Kiyone-oneesan was making hotpot.”

“As expected, when Kiyone passed away, he still couldn't bring himself to watch it ... even when Rea-chan makes it.”

“By the way, how is Rea?”

“She's going to have a boy, but well ... ...”

“Rea isn't from this dimension!” Kasumi remembered Tenchi’s presence and lowered her voice.

“So, is she going to have the kid over there?”

“It seems that his education will be done here until he is 15. They're training him to be able to survive anywhere, she even has Washu helping ...”

“... ... Before he goes over there, I hope he gets to grow up safely ... ... I worry for that child.”

“Okay! It’s done” Tenchi said, Kei and Kasumi went back to the table.

“Oh man ... ... I've been wanting to have chicken for such a long time,” Seina said.

“Seina, you don't have chicken in space?”

“..... Well, no ... .”

“Washu-chan, is there really no chicken up there?”

“Oh, there's a thing which really resembles it ... .” Washu thought while eating the poultry.

“Oh, speaking of, when I used to go to the dormitory at the GP Academy, I'd get swept away to a forest full of these funny looking chicks, I met a poacher there once.”

“Really? Were you hurt?”

“Luckily no... ...”

“And then?”

“I was picked up by a weird tentacled thing while I looked at it.”

“... ... ... And then what?”

“Well, eventually I got out of there ... But from what I heard, that was supposed to be one of the three major delicacies of the academy, they sell for a considerably high price.”

“Uhuhuhu! Did you try eating it Seina?” Washu who heard the story was struggling to hold her laugh in.

“Uhm... no.... I didn't get the chance ...”

“That's a shame ... That's the meat closest to chicken.” Washu lifted the chicken with chopsticks.

“Really? ... ... But its face was very unappetizing; I can't believe they sell at such a high price.”

“Well, chicken is easy to get on Earth, I bet if I took it over there, I could make quite the profit...”

Washu had a hobby of selling knock off and fake products. Her face gave away her intentions like a villain in a hokey drama.

“Seina-oniichan... that face Washu is making... she's probably going to start to sell it and price gouge everyone.” Sasami advised Seina after pulling his sleeve.

“Don't worry Seina-chan, I will make sure to send you some directly from here from time to time from now on.”

“Really Auntie Kei?”

“Or even better, how about you keep a roost and some hens on your ship?”

“... ... I will consult with Kiriko about that next time I see her.”

It would be nice to eat chicken in space. He could taste the soup and deep-fried chicken curries in his mind. By the way, Seina didn’t like to season his fried chicken. He felt that the seasoning ruined the delicate taste of chicken meat. He preferred to use sauces or oils to change the flavor.

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“Ugh ~ ~ ~ my stomach.”

“Miyaaaaaaa ~ ~ ~” Seina leaned against the sofa and closed his eyes happily. Fuku was also lying on Seina's knee in a similar fashion.

“I don't want to move anymore, but I have to go home.” Seina forced himself up and stumbled for the door.

“Well then, we should get going, too.” Kei and Kasumi also got up.

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“Well then, please come back again tomorrow. Mitoto you should quit trying to clean and give Minami a call, otherwise your father will scold you.”

“Aww~ ~ OK, I understand ...” Mitoto glared at Seina sluggishly stumbling towards the door. She wanted to follow him to pet his head.

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“I'll see you tomorrow.” Seina saw all of them off at the gate to Tenchi's house.

“*baby squeal*!” Taro said, Fuku happily responded by wagging her tail.

“Do you think Taro will ever go into space?” Seina asked.

“My husband is a pure Earthling, and we have a lot of relatives on his side, so I'm not sure what I should do.”

If he went into space, he couldn't return to the Earth. That would mean estrangement with family, and he would have to base his life in Masaki village, and he would have to hide from his father's side of the family. He wouldn't be able to live as an Earthling.

“Oh, I see ...”

“It's okay! I knew it was an issue when I got married to my husband, I am prepared for it.” She knew she might have to say goodbye to Taro in a few decades, not to mention her husband.

However, Taro, who was half Masaki, could also possibly live naturally much longer than those around him. Only time would tell... In order to live as an Earthling, he might have to get gene manipulation done to lose his long-life genes. But that would be a hard thing to ever have to explain to him or to justify. He might have to be disguised until he reached the end of his life as an Earthling, and he would probably be too old to life comfortably in space by then, but she had decided to only decide once he was old enough for him to explain things to him.

“I see ... I also have to think about that.” To go together with Tenchi to the end of infinity. He had made up his mind, but parting with close friends was another matter.

“If my husband or this boy lives a life without regrets, I think that's fine. We've all experienced loss and had to move on more times than we can recall. Yosho's first wife was also a pure Earthling, she couldn't bear to live for so many years, so she had him stop prolonging her life. I bet even you Seina and Tenchi, are having mixed feelings too, aren't you?” Kasumi said as she looked back to the Masaki family home. However, Kasumi's wasn't seeing the Masaki's now, but the Masaki family long ago in the past.

“……I agree.” Tenchi and Seina noticed that Kasumi was thinking of Tenchi's mother, Kiyone.

“But we've decided to stick around.”

“... Good, I believe that you two will find it enjoyable. In my case I will try harder to feel the same. I want to see how you two turn out ♡” Kasumi tapped Seina and Tenchi on the shoulder.

“ ... Well, I'll try hard not to disappoint.” Tenchi said.

Seina nodded too with a confident expression. “Same.”

Seina bowed to Tenchi and Kasumi and straddled a newly repaired Kai special made with extra light weight material.

Although he trusted Washu’s explanation that it was made using only the structural materials available on the Earth, he knew that it was likely that it was made out of state-of-the-art materials used only for military and space purposes.

“Be careful.” Tenchi called from behind him, Seina began peddling and was surprised by the smooth feeling of his revamped ride, Seina's spirits rose as he climbed the mountain path.

Chapter Seventeen: Memory of the Snow

It seemed as if it was snowing. Looking out from huge three pane windows, there were big Snow Mist Tree's as far as the eye could see, and the appearance of their petal's scattering made it look as if it was snowing.

In the center of a large room, an old man lay in a big bed where some medical equipment was set up. He was accompanied only by a young female nurse.

The nurse whispered something into the ear of the old man.

“... ... Has Miss Mikami come?”

As if to respond to his question Mikami appeared from the shadow of the sunshine and bowed deeply. Her face was subtle but tense looking. It was the face of a young child who came to greet their old father. The old man was the eldest of the Kuramitsu family.

The planet “Seniwa” currently was only inhabited by the Kuramitsu's family members and the nation's Royal Family, as well as the people and facilities necessary for their living. This house was located on a continent that was half the size of Australia, it was the smallest continent on Seniwa, which was where the Kuramitsu family originated, and here lived the oldest member and his nurse.

“As usual the Snow Mist's look splendid, we have a few at the academy too.”

“It's about time to make my final arrangements.”

“Please don't say such a thing...” Mikami’s face seemed to start crying.

“... ... I have lived for a long, long time and I'd like to take a break soon.”

“.....”

“Can you understand my feelings?”

“Huh!?”

“I think now is a good time to go, I've lived a long fortunate life, wouldn't you say?”

“I’ll be sad ... ...” Mikami realized that the decision the eldest member had made had been hard for him. She smiled with a sad heart.

The eldest turned towards the nurse who had refrained from lying down and opened his eyes. Petals like snow were dancing in the window. The elderly man gazed at it nostalgically.

“Look Miyuki ..... Snow ... ...!”

The Snow Mist seen from the window behind the nurse were suddenly blown up by strong winds, which scattered the petals violently, it looked like a snowstorm.

“Ohhhhhhhhh, Mother!”

Desperately desiring to go outside, he reached out his hands. The young nurse gently reached out and held his weak and trembling hands.

“Miyuki ... ... are you still waiting for me?” Tears flowed from the eldest’s eyes.

What he imagined was a sight he had seen a long time ago - a woman with bright red burning hair and his younger sister.

His wide green eyes spread open. And the color of his skin held by the nurse was different from those of the Kuramitsu's. His white skin was similar to the snow mist petals. Yes, he was Washu Hakubi's son, Mikumo Kuramitsu.

Chapter Eighteen: The Moon Shines

When Seina arrived at his parents' house, a car which didn't belong to anyone in his house was parked out front... But Seina knew the car.

"Maybe it came from Masaki village?" He figured. Seina took the Kai Special to the barn. It was Seina's most beloved belonging. For a moment he thought of taking it into outer space, but he decided to leave it on Earth for now. He wanted to prove that the Earth was his home.

"Well, see you again some other time." He said to it and closed the barn door. Fuku knew it too,

"Mia!" Just like Seina, she wished the bike goodbye.

"I'll get back on as soon as I come back to Earth again."

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While stroking Fuku, Seina went home.

"Welcome home, Onii-chan, Fuku-chan." Instantly, Yoshiko came over and took Fuku away.

"Yoshiko. That car, did it come from Masaki village?"

"Yeah, Aunt Tsukiko and an interesting guest came here to arrange for tomorrow's pick-up. I'm sad you're going so soon brother. Fuku-chan, I wanted to get to see you some more."

"I'm sorry, I didn't think that I would have to go back so soon. I'm not going anywhere else for a while, so please have fun with Fuku."

"Yay!" She looked at Seina.

"Hey, if you're not doing anything, we should play together too."

"Well, but ... ."

"Mia!" Fuku appealed to Seina.

"OK, but nothing too intense."

"Yay! I'll go get something, wait here!" Yoshiko quickly went up to her room.

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"Ahahahaha! Onii-chan, your luck is so bad!" Yoshiko rolled around happily and laughed. They were playing old maid and Seina had lost every round.

He always lost every round. No matter how carefully he shuffled or cut the cards, he always got a losing hand. Fuku was even more surprised, she made a cry indicating that she wanted to play too.

The cause was that Fuku learned all the small scratches on the back side of the cards. She won every round and Yoshiko became bored quickly and started stacking the cards in a pyramid.

“Mya!” Fuku jumped right into it. “Mia! Mia!” The pyramid collapsed and Fuku asked her to make it again.

“Oh, sure thing!” Yoshiko started to stack cards again. However, it was difficult as Fuku was impatient.

“Oh, wait a moment!” Yoshiko got up and went out of the living room. And a few minutes later, came back with a big cardboard box.

“What's wrong?”

There were a lot of dominoes in the cardboard box.

“We used these for our opening celebration event.” Yoshiko started arranging dominoes in a familiar style. Yoshiko arranged as many as 100 dominoes.

“Fuku, try it out”

“Miah?”

“Look, this way.” Yoshiko took Fuku and hit the stack with her foot making it cascade.

“Mia!” Fuku looked happy. “Mia! Mia!”

“Ooo, or I can build a building.” Yoshiko quickly made a 4 storied tower.

“Mia!” Fuku immediately jumped into it to break it down. “Mia! Miah! Mia!”

“I know, I'll make a big city of them!” Yoshiko began to build.

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“I'm home.” Around 7 PM, Kiriko came back. “I'm sorry I took so long. I'm starving, what about you ...?” Kiriko looked into the living room to find a breathtaking view.

A miniature city made of dominos occupied nearly half of the living room. It felt like the miniature set of a giant monster movie.

“Miyaa ~ ~!” The monster appeared and destroyed a small building! It was Fuku-zilla.

“Haha, wow!” Kiriko's said.

“Miyaaaaaaaaaa! Mi mi yaaaaaaaaa!”

While destroying the city, she headed towards a huge building in the back of the city. Finally, Fuku-zilla reached the huge building, and stepped on it trying to knock it down.

“Mi yaaaaaa!” However, it seemed that the huge building was reinforced considerably, and not even a punch from her could knock it down... Frustrated, she stated punching away at it.

“Mya! Miyan!” Slowly it gave way and crumbled with a loud noise. It became a mountain of rubble and the monster Fuku-zilla got on top of the mountain of ruble and roared. “Miyaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaan!”

“Yay! Good job!” Kiriko applauded and looked at the big domino city Neiju, Seina and Yoshiko had made.

“You should this clean up I'll go make us dinner real quick.”

“That was fun ~ big brother,” Yoshiko told Seina.

“Mia!” Fuku climbed up Seina's shoulder.

“Yeah, Fuku-chan really enjoyed it too,” Neiju watched the sight of the two of them happily

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Seina, Neiju and Yoshiko began cleaning up the dominoes. Kyoko came in and helped them.

“I'll help you too.” An unfamiliar young woman began to help clean up.

“Huh... ...?” Seina continued tidying while studying her unusual appearance and behavior.

“Oh Seina, have you met her before?” Seina was pulled in front of the woman by his mother.

“This is one of Ringo's subordinates who has been helping her down at the store...”

“Nice to meet you baby, my name is Nene Krin.”

“... ... Uhm, I'm Yamada Seina ... Nice to meet you ...” Seina put his face close to Nene.

“Uhm ... ... Maybe... Are you by any chance a Wau?”

“What! Why do you ask?”

“Ah, so you are after all.” Even camouflaged as a human, there was something slightly off about her from the difference in shape that was immediately apparent to those who were familiar with Wau.

She sniffed him. “Baby, you smell!”

“Ahaha!” Kyoko burst out laughing.

“Sorry, I'll take a bath later.”

“No! Go now! Please go immediately!”

“No, but ... ...”

“I will not let you avoid it! Let's go! Quickly! Nene will clean you thoroughly!”

“Eh?! Help?!”

“Miah?”

Nene picked up Seina and dragged him to the bathroom. Fuku followed as Kyoko laughed on the floor.

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“Wait a moment! Stop it! Other people are in there!” Seina, who was taken to the changing room, noticed the clothes and underwear there, and resisted desperately as Nene tried to strip him. However, he failed.

Of course, the others in the bathroom heard him scream. Those currently in the bathroom were Hakuren, Suiren, Tsukiko and Ringo.

“Oh no, that sounds like Nene and Seina...!” Ringo, familiar with Nene's habits, instantly understood what was going on in the changing room. Hakuren and Suiren got up to seize her at the door.

Hakuren tried to seize Nene when she entered the bathroom, but instead grabbed onto Seina.

“Ah!!”

That really only succeed in making him as hard as someone who had seen Medusa.

“Aaaaa ... .” She fell over in embarrassment.

Everyone else stared bewildered and embarrassed.

Nene took Seina into the bath and began washing him.

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Once they all got out, Seina was too embarrassed to look at Ringo. Ringo couldn't look at him, Tsukiko either. The same was true of Hakuren who was stuttering and talking slowly. Suiren remained silent ... But sometimes looked embarrassed. She had been there the whole time and seen everything, but no one noticed.

In addition, Amane, Gyokuren, Kiriko, Ryoko and Karen had heard what was going on in the bathroom and had stopped to listen on the other side, were also embarrassed... Which really stagnated the air around Hokuto's toast as the farewell dinner party began.

The dishes lined up on the table were all prototypes made for the shop, except for the rice and miso soup.

* * * **Translators' note: Now for massive implication that Seina is hung like a 24 oz. Monster can. * * ***

Let's look at what was going on in the girl's minds.

Ringo was embarrassed. (Oh my... Maybe being his wife wouldn't be such a bad idea after all.)

As for Tsukiko, (Kuisu-sama! You stupid, stupid idiot! Even though I made up my mind to be Seina's Aunt the other day.) She had doubts about whether she made the right decision. (Kuisu-sama! DAMN YOU!) What she saw had totally ruined her perception of Seina from the past.

In the case of Hakuren. (God damn it! I want to have Seina-sama's baby already!)

In the case of Suiren. (..... Seina-sama ... so cute)

For Amane. (Hmm... I wonder who I should ask about what went on in there... It sounded very interesting....)

In the case of Gyokuren. (..... DAAAAAMN.....)

In the case of Karen. (..... Seina-sama ... ... Oh why can't I get it out of my mind! Quit picturing it! Ahhh damn you, stupid brain!) She kept spontaneously blushing, then getting embarrassed.

In case of Kiriko. (……I WILL K I L L HER!)

In the case of Ryoko. (I guess I'm going to have to keep Kiriko-san from killing someone. I hate when she gets like this.) Ryoko, felt Kiriko's unrestrained killing instinct. She felt like the sober friend who had to keep the belligerent drunk friend from getting in trouble.

In the case of Neiju. (Is everyone Okay? They're all acting weird ... Adults are weird...) Neiju whose physical age was immature felt no sexual desire yet...

In case of Fuku (Miaa), she had enjoyed her bath and felt nice and clean.

Incidentally, Hokuto didn't notice anything about the situation and Kyoko found it interesting.

"... ... cheers!" Hokuto filled their mugs with beer.

"Cheers ... ... Cheers!"

"Cheers!"

Each of them raised their voices to get away from their own thoughts.

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About an hour later.

"Well, I'm stuffed." Yoshiko hugged her stomach and hugged Fuku and left to go into the living room with Neiju. Hokuto stood up with a mug and came next to Seina.

“Seina, why don't we go outside and have a man to man talk?”

“A what?”

“It's your last night here, I think it's a good opportunity to talk.”

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Seina and Hokuto went out to the garden and laid out a tatami mat and placed sake and juice on a big tray there.

“Tonight's full moon sure is beautiful.” Hokuto and Seina sat and drank beer and juice.

“Hmm, you know I always envisioned having a beer with my son ... ... But you know it might be better if you don't drink alcohol even though you can once you become an adult.”

“Yeah, I think so too.” Drinking alcohol dulled judgment and body reactions. It could be a deadly combination for the unlucky Seina.

“Well either way, it's nice to be able to speak to you as an adult... So ... ... Is school fun?” Hokuto asked.

“Oh, yeah, it's fun, everyone accepts me ... ...” Seina said a bit sourly as a bit of rip at the people in the city and his family.

“... I'm sorry, but it's not like anyone here really ever knew how to handle it...”

“Yeah, it was a bit weird getting used to everyone being okay with it.”

“……I bet.”

“But I'm glad. It's really nice to have people who accept me despite it ... But I understand those who don't.”

Hokuto looked back into the house. “If you hadn't gotten into kindergarten and hadn't met the Masaki Village people, who knows what our family would be like right now.”

“.....” Seina shuddered at the thought.

“I remember when you were first born... your mother thought that you were some kind of punishment from god for her committing some idol sin, she was always blaming herself ...”

“I don't ever remember her seeming that way ...” Of course, on the surface she and Yoshiko always laughed to hide their pain.

“I'll never forget when you came back from kindergarten and you were so happy you made friends for the first time ... ... When Tsukiko-san, introduced herself to us, Kyoko finally smiled, and I knew everything would be okay ...” Hokuto said.

“Your mother never cried in public ... ... But in that moment, she was so relieved, that she cried and cried and cried, she was so happy that you had finally made a friend.”

*** * * Translators’ note: This speech is given in episode 25 of the anime by Kiriko and is missing in GXP novel 14. I think it's better coming from his father rather than from Kiriko to Airi personally. By the way, this is the only instance of Tsukiko showing up in The GXP anime. * * ***

Seina listened to Hokuto's words silently. He always knew there were hardship's his family faced, but it was the first time he realized the reality of it.

“From then on things became much more comfortable, but she was still exhausted, and it nearly reached its peak when they tried to keep you from entering high school.”

“So, you were just happy to reduce the burden on her for a bit ... ...?” He didn't think of it maliciously on the contrary he thought it was natural.

“Well, I was ready to look after you for a lifetime if we had to, but the difficulty of looking after you is hard to handle alone ... ... Luckily the Masaki's have always been so kind and helpful...”

“I think it worked out for the best... The business has gone well, and now it's flourishing even with me back here ...”

“I don't care about the shop, if we had to lose it to accommodate you being here, I would be happy to do so. I don't want you to think you’re worth less than the shop to us.”

“... .... Thank you. I'm happy to hear that.”

“However, things seem to be going much better for you out there than we ever expected. I was really surprised when I first saw Amane. And then I saw all the others and how different you seem from when you left... You have a lot more confidence...”

“Well, I don't quite understand it myself, but ... ...”

“Oh, and Seina ... ... Your mother was worried you'd never find anyone but now that she's seen all these wonderful girls you have, she's ecstatic. They definitely perk me up too ... I can't believe it, who would have thought you'd ever have such hotties as girlfriends. Who's your favorite?”

The serious atmosphere of the conversation crumbled.

“Hotties?! What are you talking about? Those girls are just assisting me ... It's rude to think about them that way.”

“Really, they don't seem like they would be angry about that.”

“Well maybe... but still.” Seina looked embarrassed.

“Well, no matter what, at least you have possibilities for the future... there's no need to hurry, you have plenty of time.”

“……Yeah, that's true” Seina said, he looked up at the moon in the night sky again and sighed.

The moon had been a symbol of despair, absolutely out of reach; but now Seina had possibilities and even hopes in the space beyond it and tomorrow he was heading back out into that world.

Afterword: Concluding Theater Part 6

Seina's friend A was chatting with his friend C at friend B's house, looking satisfied with the pictures he had taken of Amane and her friends with his cell phone.

“Damn! I'm amazed at your lack of thoughtfulness. If it were up to me, I'd have taken more pictures of those girls, like this one: .....!” Friend B complained as he stared intently at the photos Friend A had given him. Friend C was also staring at the photos of Amane and her friends.

“Kiriko-san told me to take only one picture, so what could I do?”

“You could have gotten a good hidden shot of them.”

“I don't want her to hate me for doing that.” Friend A blushed and kissed the screen of his phone.

“Think about it. Have you ever heard of anyone else successfully taking a hidden photo? Are there any other pictures out there?”

“Kuh! You're the only one who can get up close and personal with those ladies.”

“Seina was with me, so I was in the safe zone. Then why don't you go check out the supermarket and see if they still work there?”

“The sweets you're eating are the ones I bought at Yamada Store!” There was a mountain of sweets in front of his friends' eyes.

“Thanks to them, my allowance for this month is already.....!”

It seemed that Amane and her friends paid for all of it.

“But it was worth it. ... She was so beautiful; it was like she was a real person. I don't want to be in the same category as the girls in my class. In fact, even the idols on TV are in the same category as the girls in our class compared to them!”

“For the first time in my life, I'm jealous of Seina!”

“Oh! Me too!” Friend B and Friend C exchanged a crushing, tight embrace.

“Can't we just go through Seina and meet those ladies directly?”

“Impossible. He's mostly in Masaki village now.”

“... Well, if he wanders around here, he'll ruin the store that's grown so big.” His friends were well aware of Seina's characteristics.

“And that's it!” Friend A put the bag of sweets he had hidden behind his back in front of him with a bang.

“..... What, you too? Well, there's not a boy in school who didn’t see it.”

“I was just on my way home from buying this and I saw Kai.”

“Oh! Kai was there! He's well on his way to ..... via Kiriko.”

“Yeah, he was being beaten up like a sandbag by ... ... Kiriko. And when you talk to him, he says that Seina can't introduce him because of his position, so he asked Kiriko to do it.”

“So, you asked for an introduction and were turned down ... ... So, the Seina and Kai route are doomed?”

“..... No, what he asked was that she wear a swimsuit from his collection and let him take a picture of her in it.”

“Oh, you mean his collection?”

Friend B and Friend C both frowned. It was the almost pimp-like bathing suit that Dai had brought for Tsukiko to wear, which Tsukiko had half-killed him for, and which Kai had taken and hidden away.

“He reasoned that it would take a good photo for the supermarket or yet another ad or something, but in the end, Kiriko kicked him in the head, knocked him out, and had the delivery guy deliver him to his house.”

“He's an idiot, that one.”

“I kind of knew it, but he's an idiot.”

“Yeah, he's an idiot ....., but...”

(I wish I could have seen her in that swimsuit. .....) His friends were eating their sweets and smiling sickening smiles and fantasizing.

“Anyway, I have the solution! All we have to do is convince Kai, the idiot, to give us a normal introduction! Contact him as soon as possible now at .....”

“From the look of that damage, I don't think he's going to wake up today.”

His friends were well aware of Kai's habits. Besides, the clock on the desk was already pointing to nearly five in the afternoon.

“Alright, then, we'll make it tomorrow morning! Don't be late, okay?”

“Ooooh! I'll do it!”

“Whoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo! Hope had sprung up. This month's allowance ... ... I'm going to get my money back!” Said friend B.

The two friends nodded with big smiles on their faces. The only smiles they would get at the supermarket would be as customers. But tomorrow, they could be properly recognized as Seina and Kai's friends. (And maybe I'll get some personal attention from .....)

“Hahaha!”

Seina’s friends were delusional and laughing themselves silly as they howled at the ceiling. But it was the day after this that Kiriko and her friends returned to space on short notice.